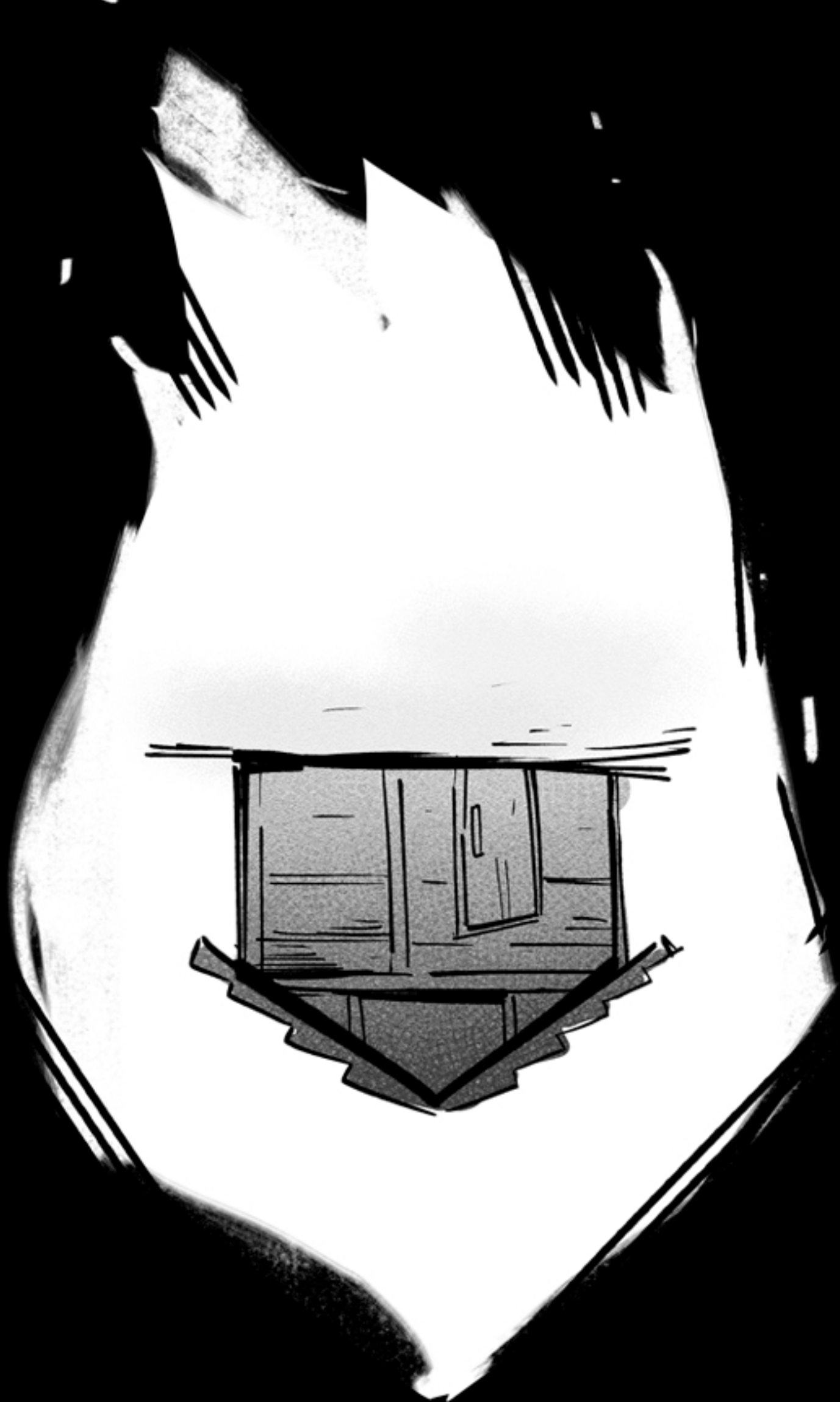
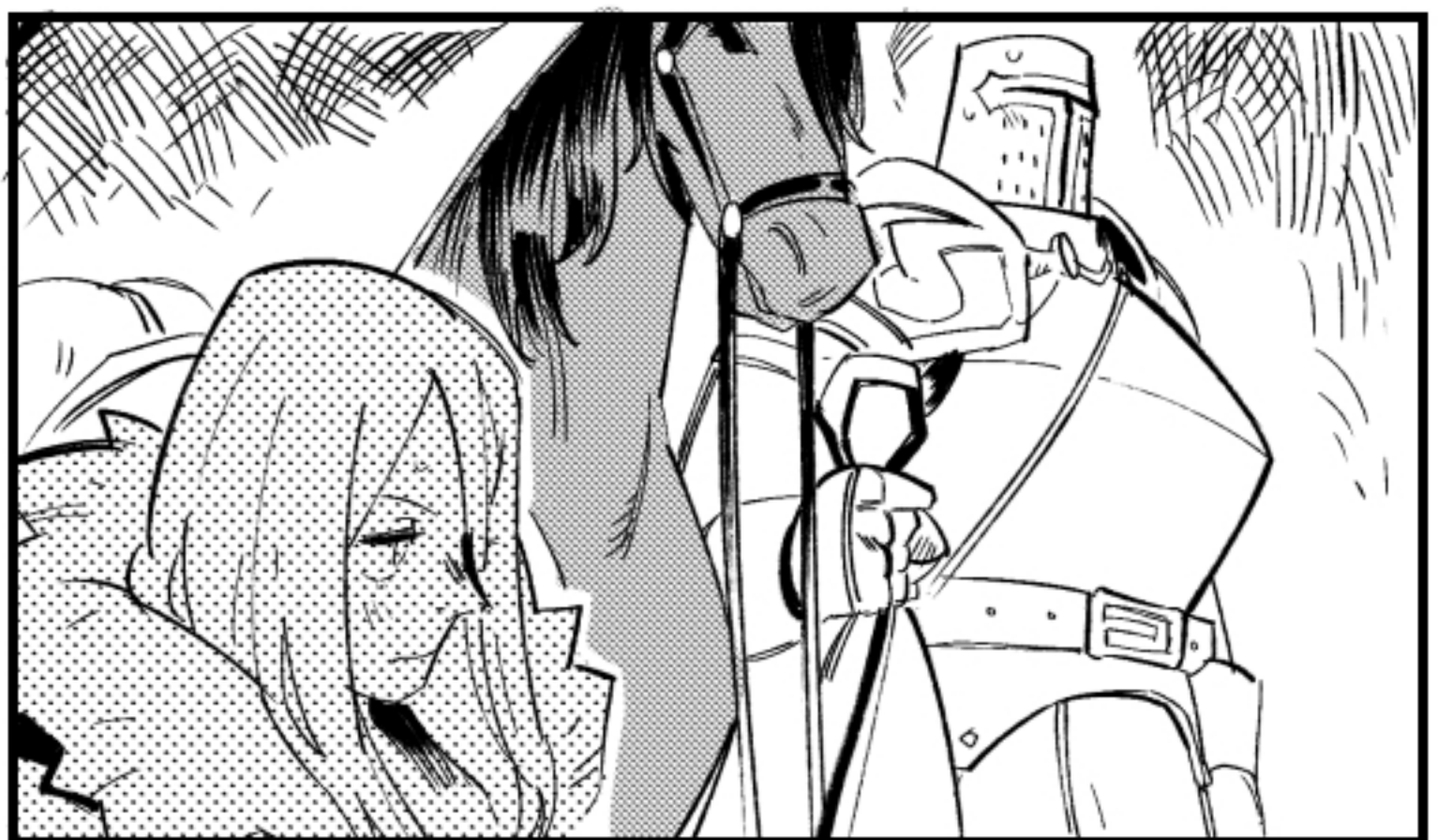


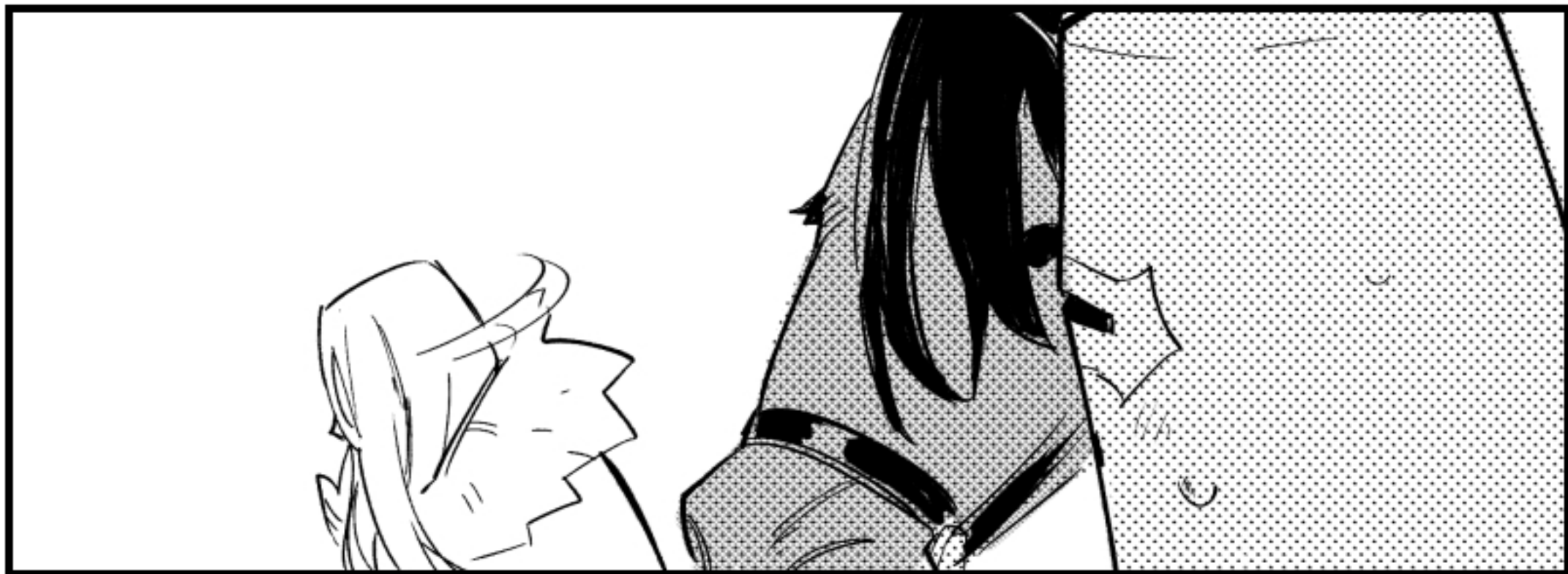
BOND BY FIRE

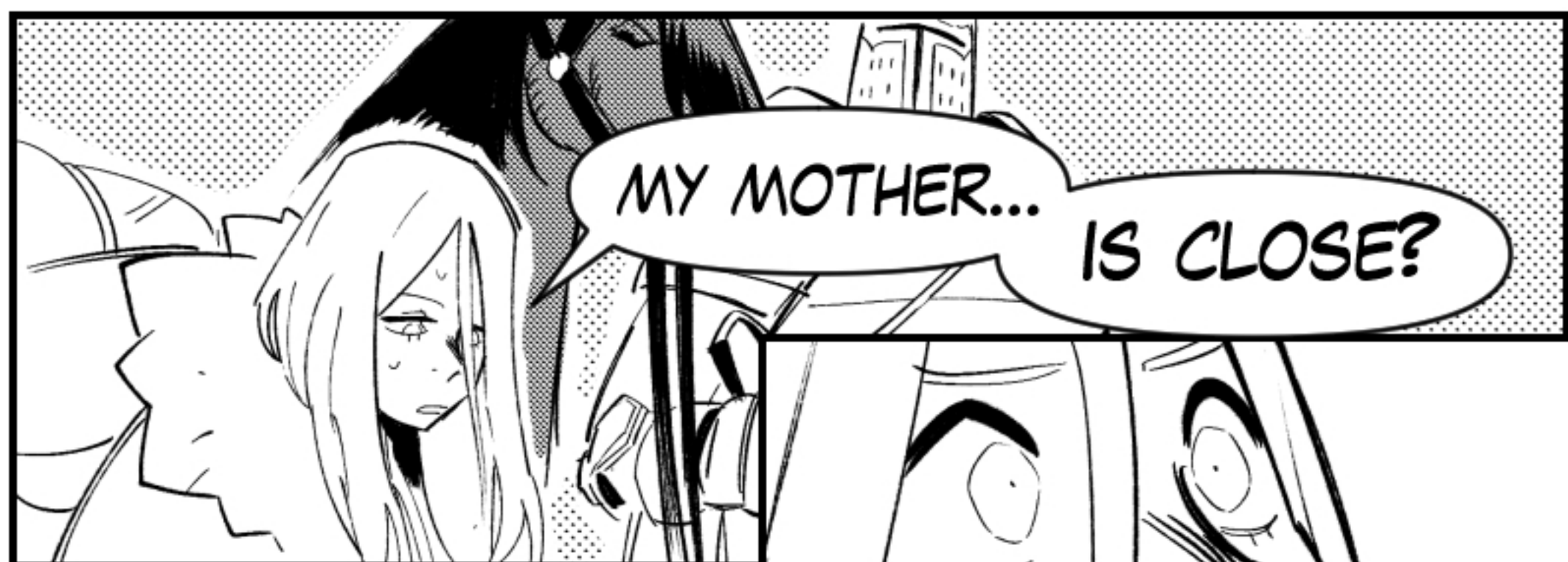
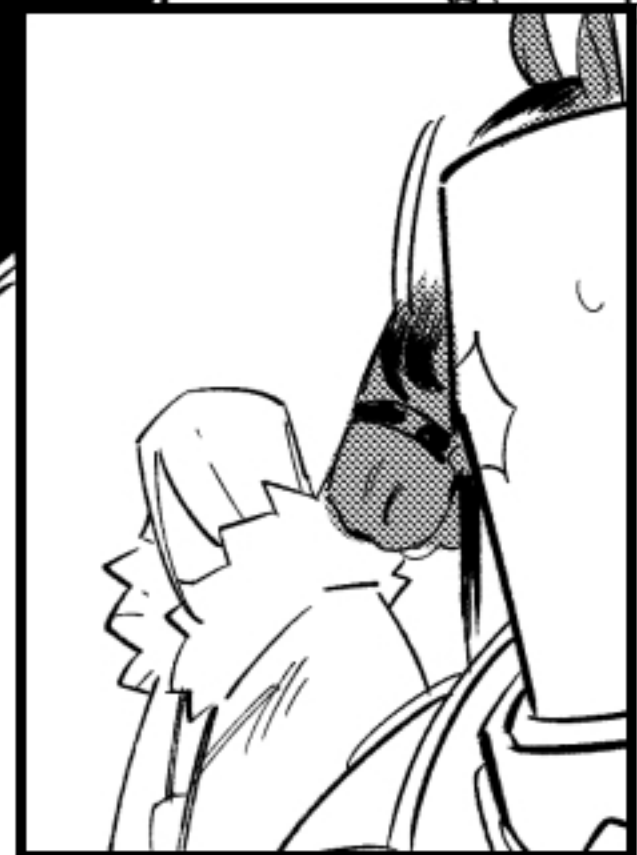
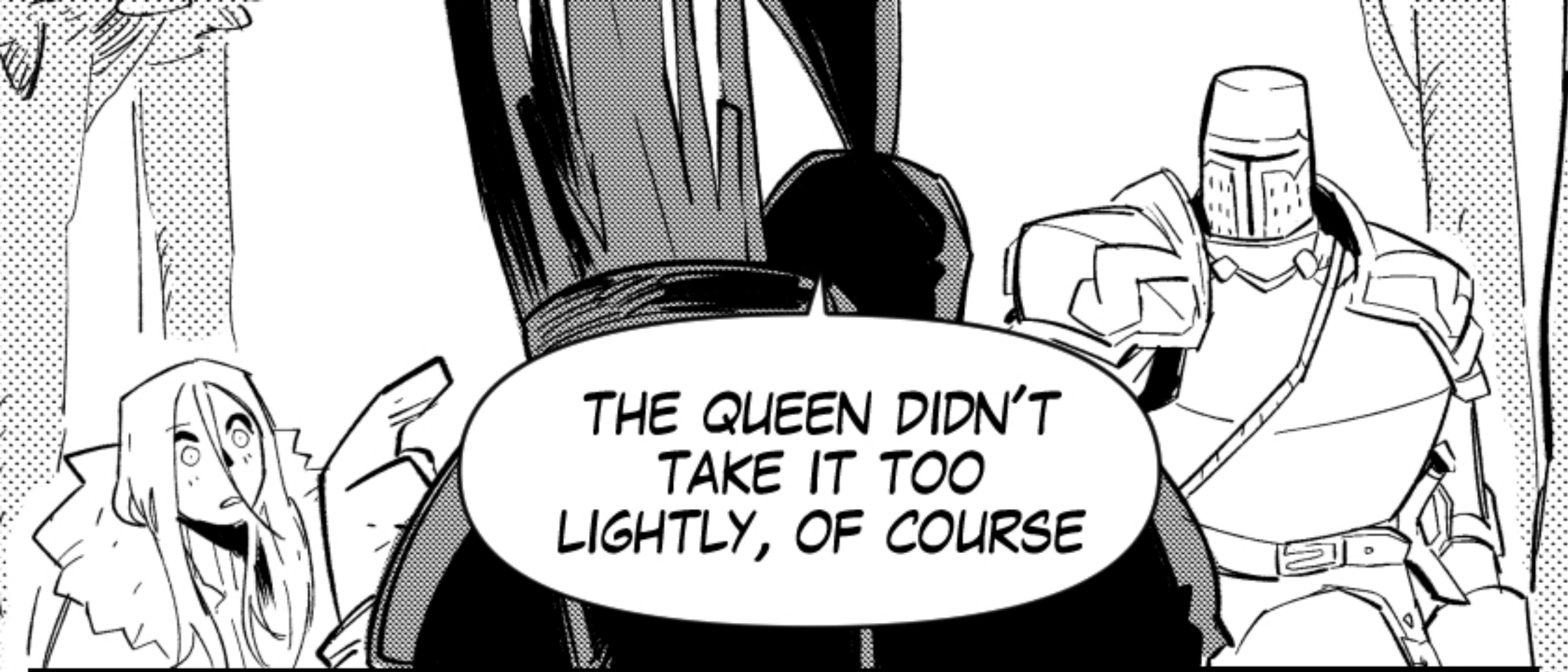
Chapter 9: Home, sweet home



Caterina P Droguett



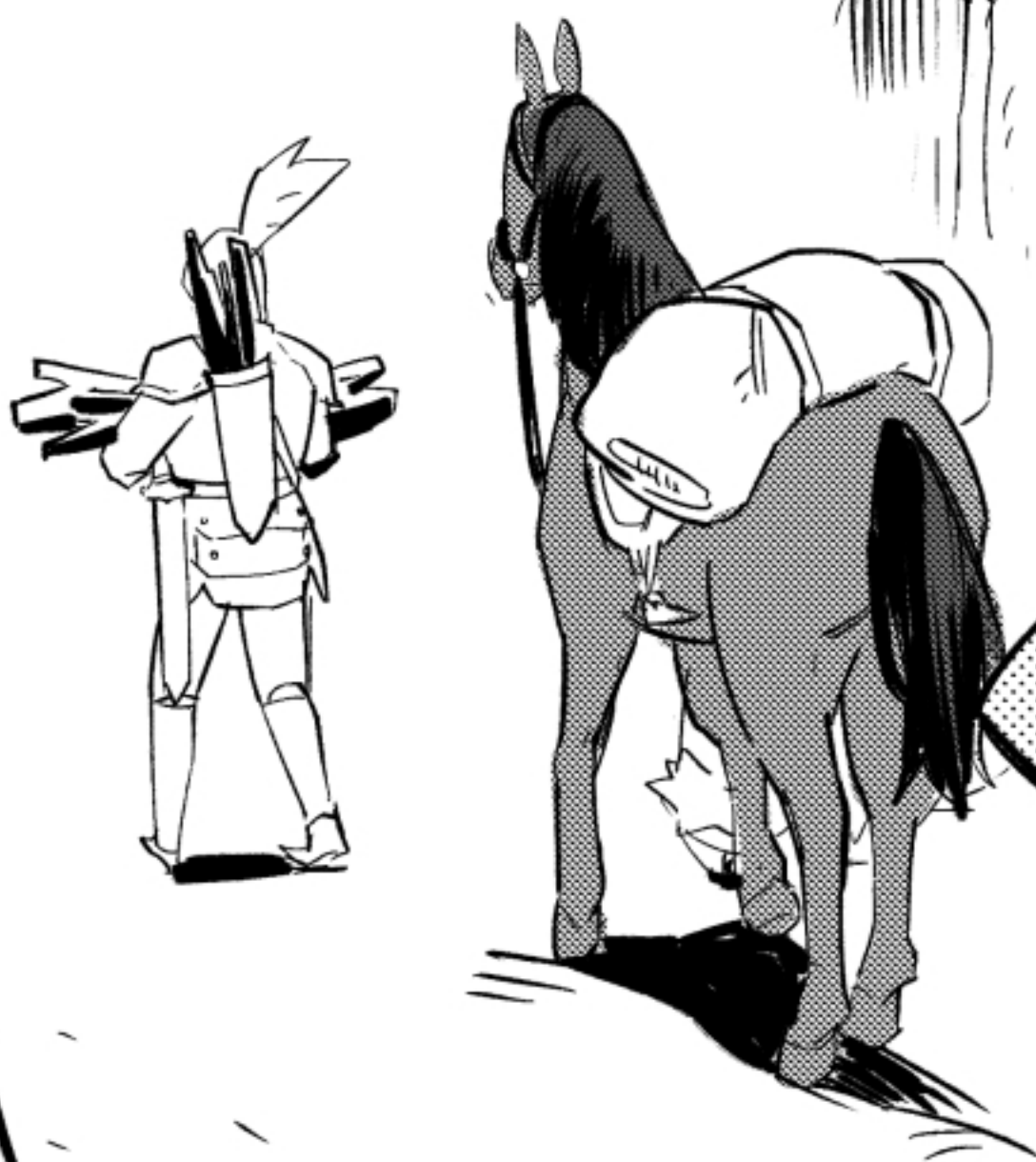


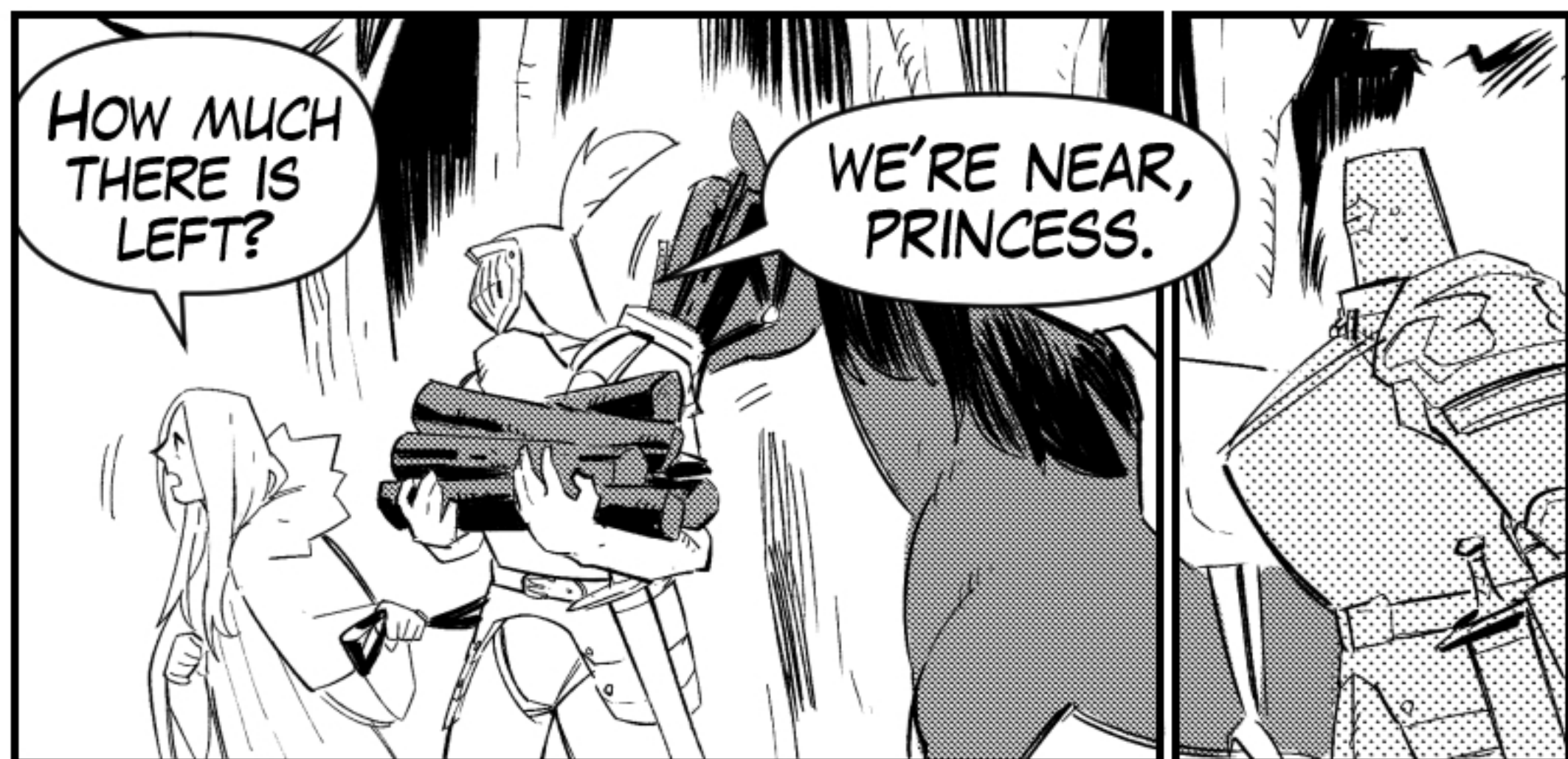
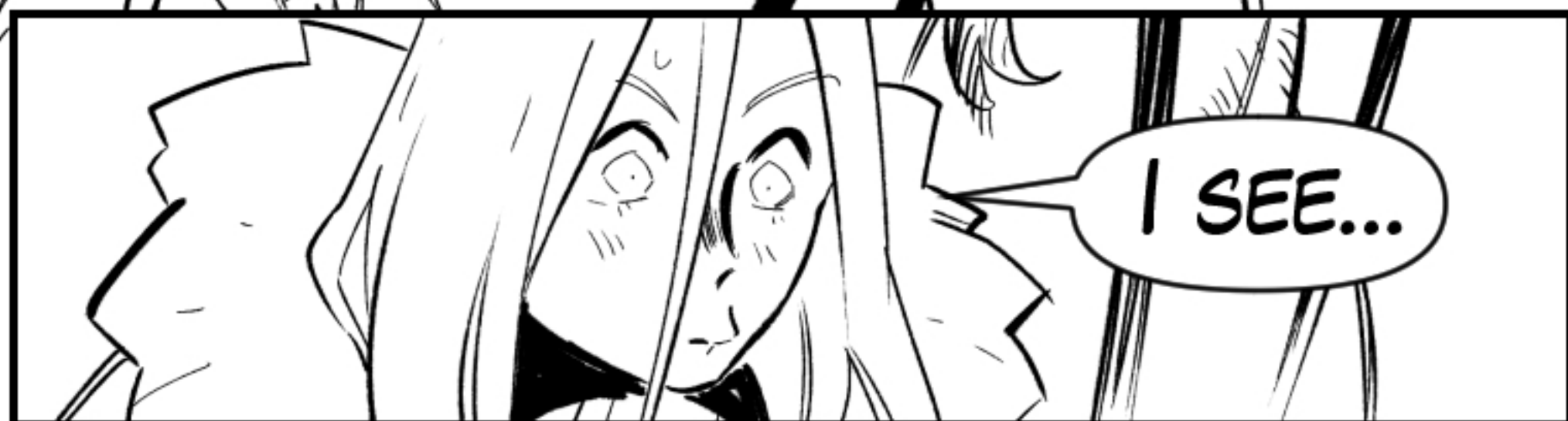
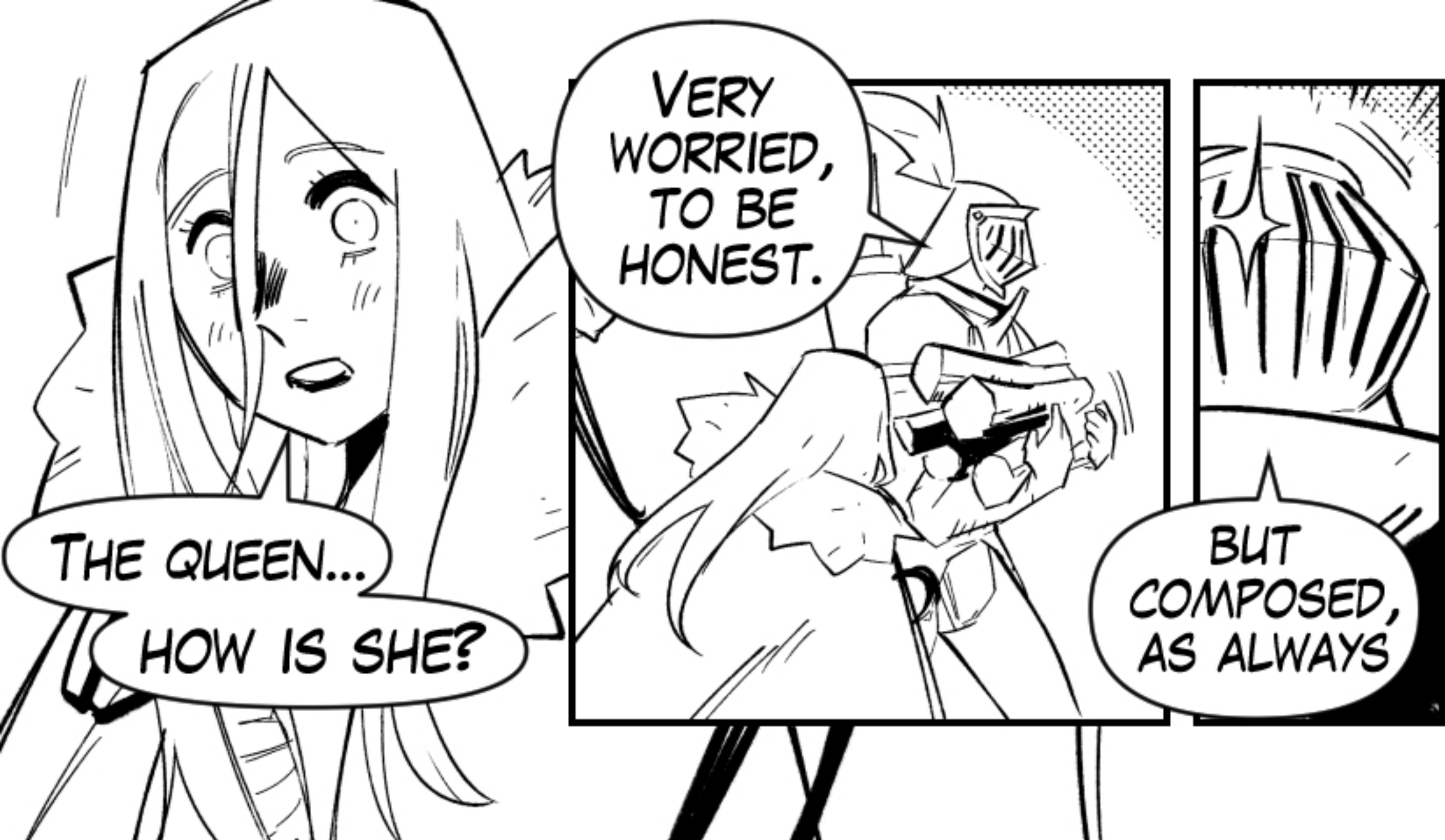


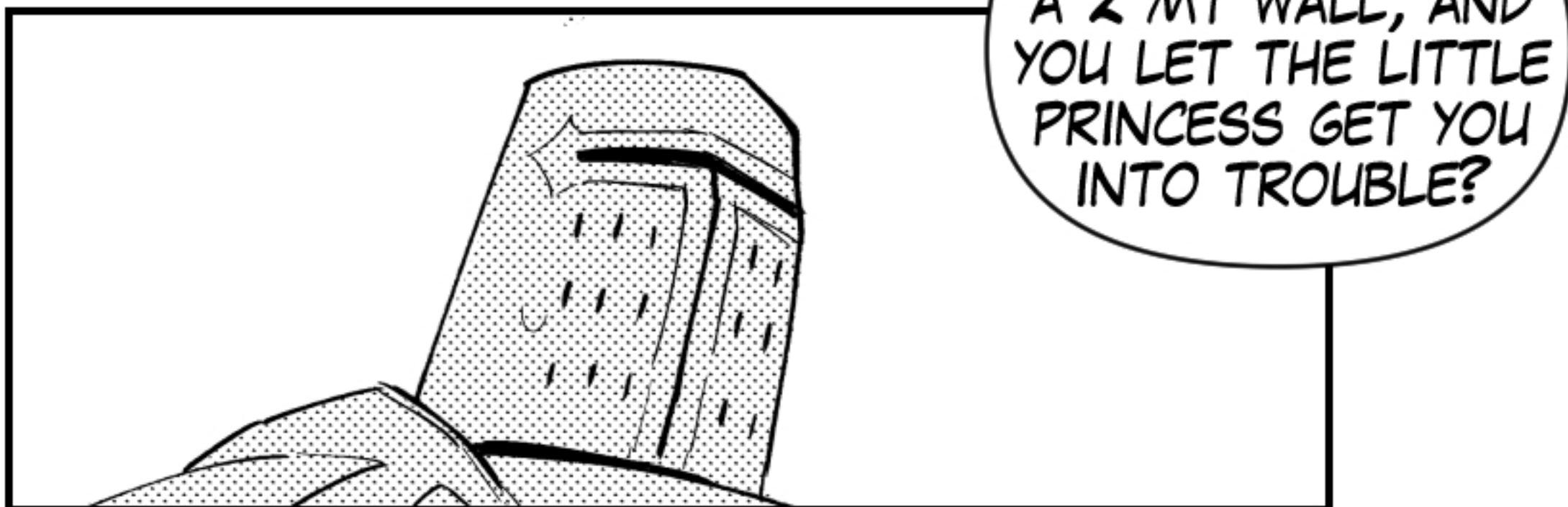
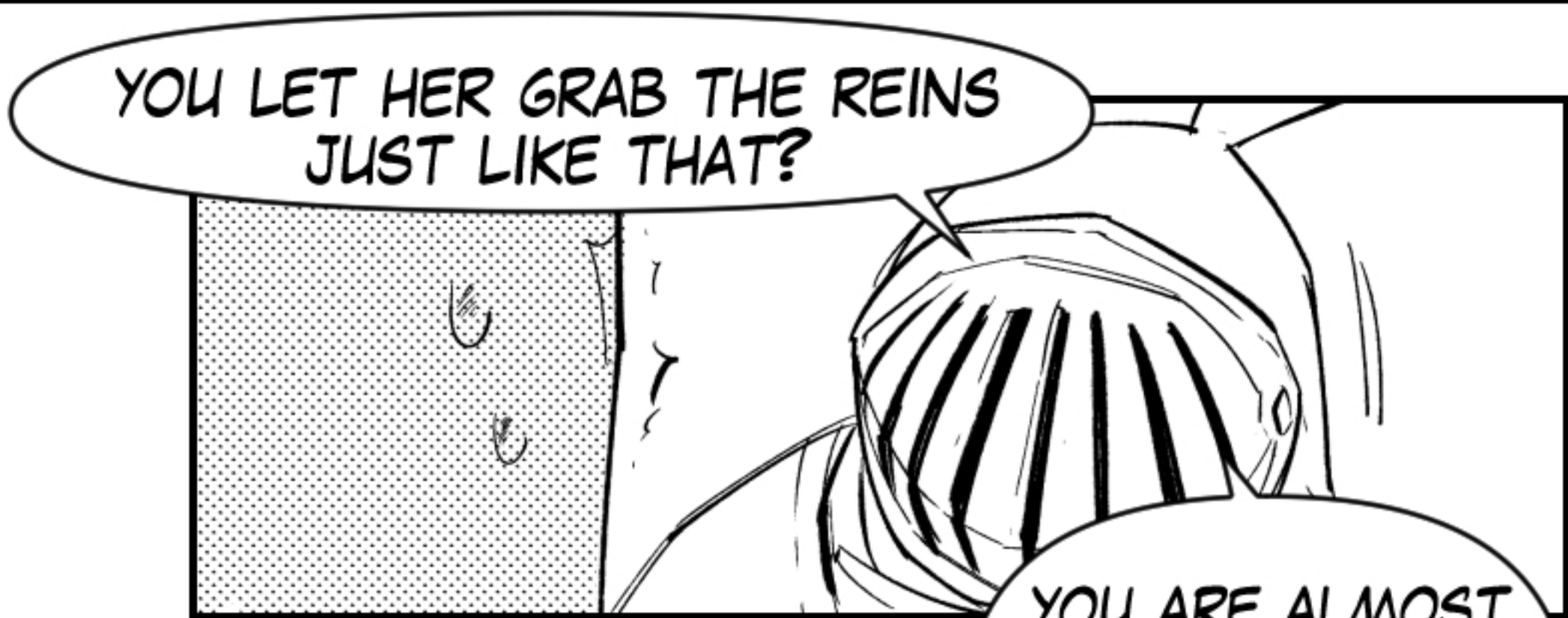
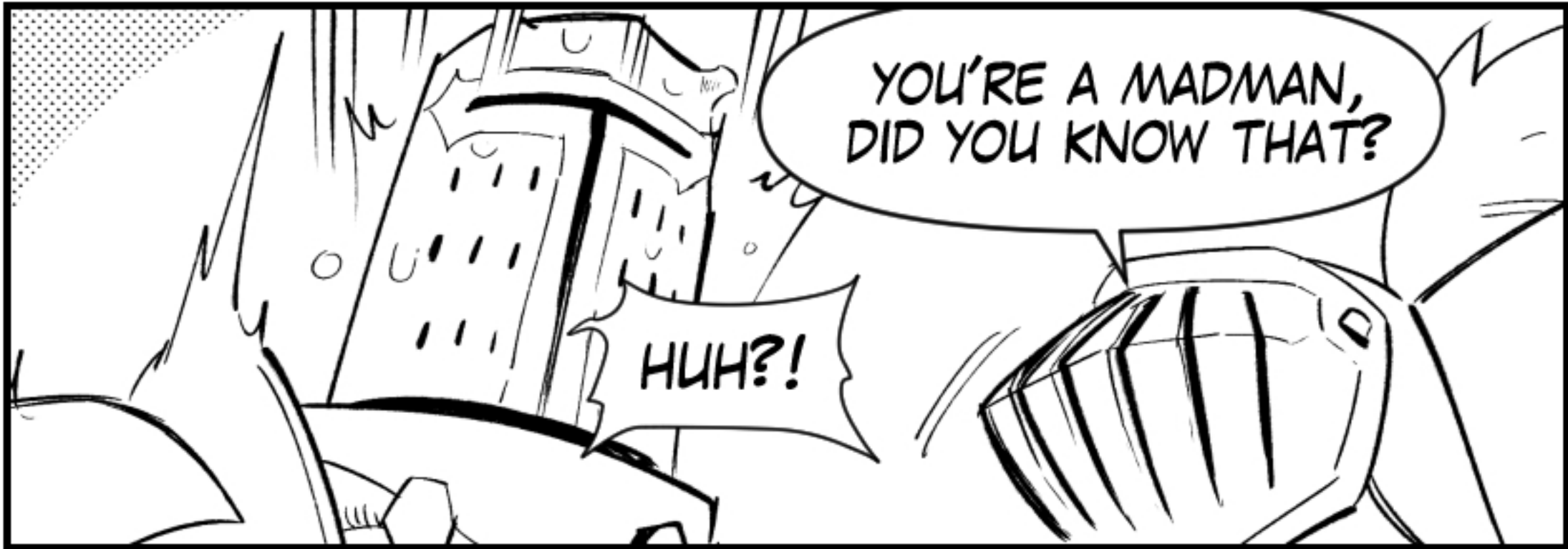
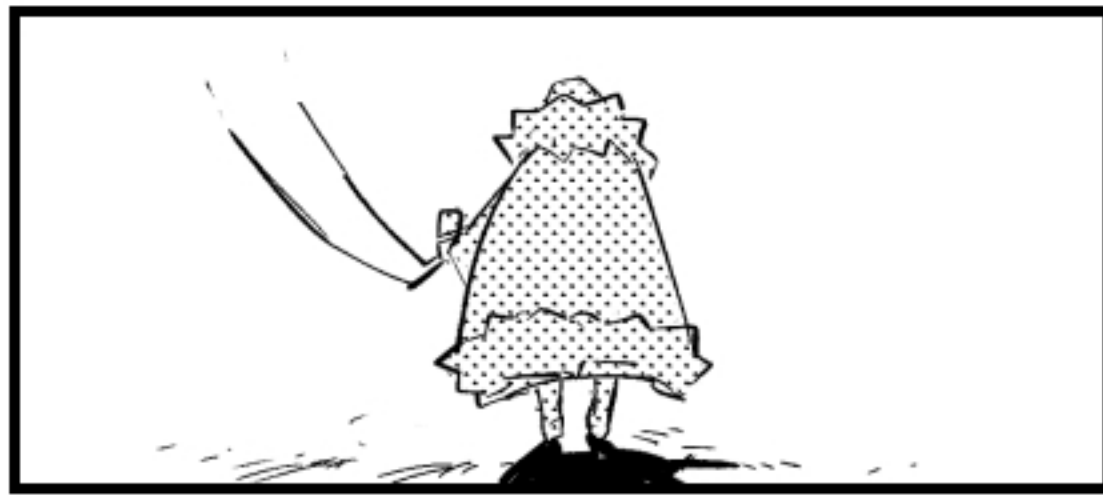
OF COURSE!

FERMIN AND
I HAVE BEEN
ESCORTING HER

ANYWAY.
FOLLOW ME









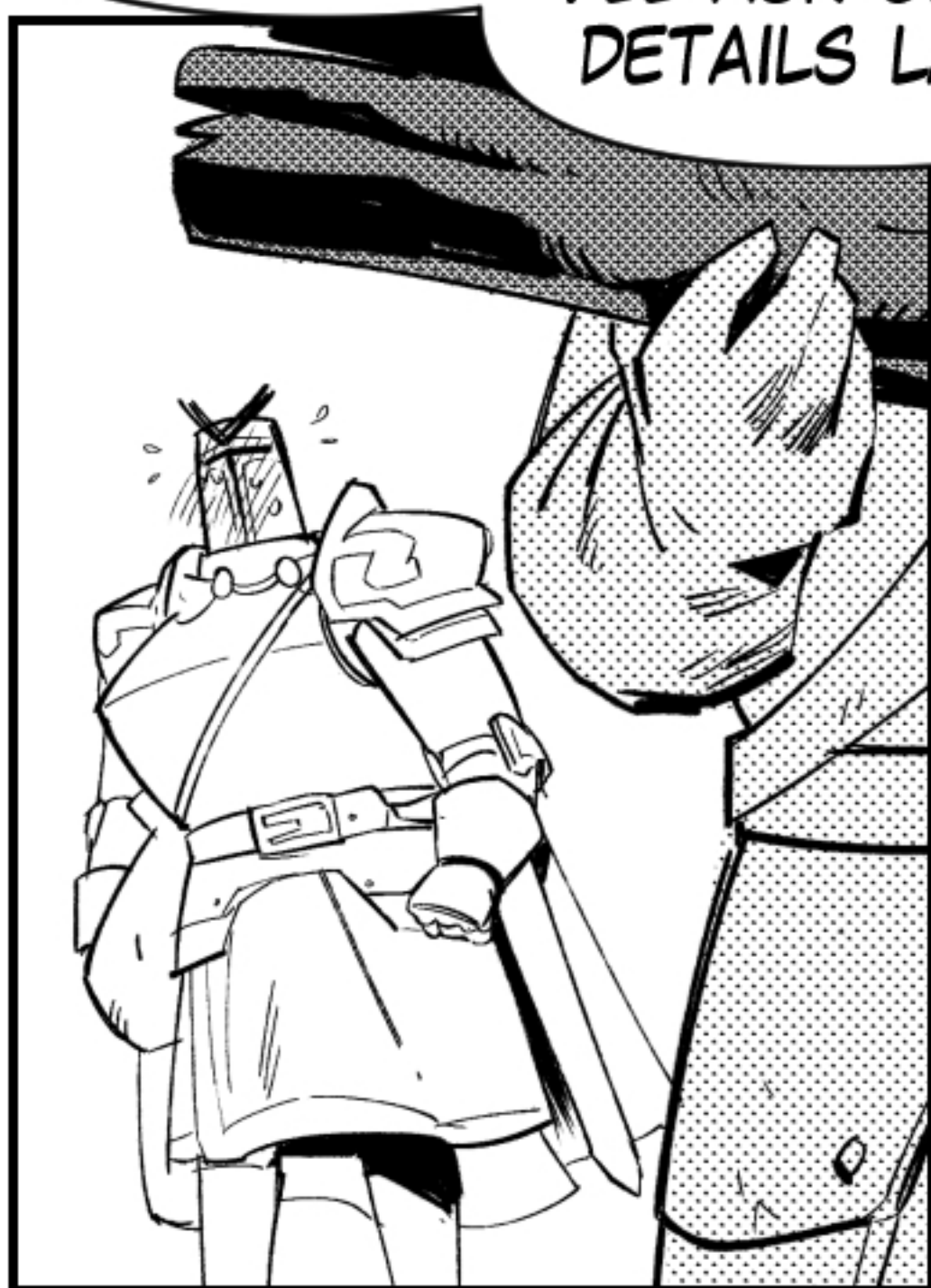
I'M... NOTHING
MORE THAN HER
RIGHT-HAND MAN,
ERLANTZ

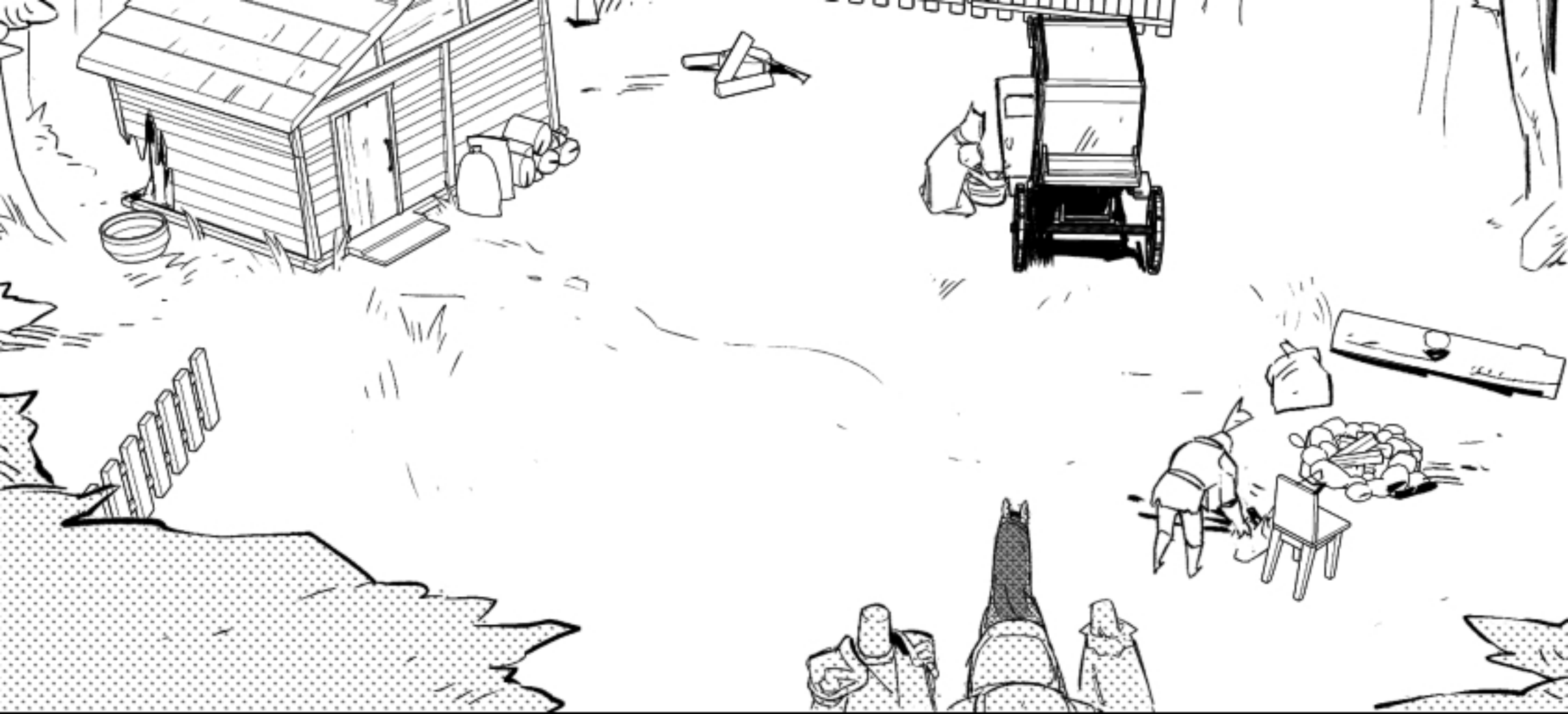
I MUST ABIDE
FOR HER ORDERS

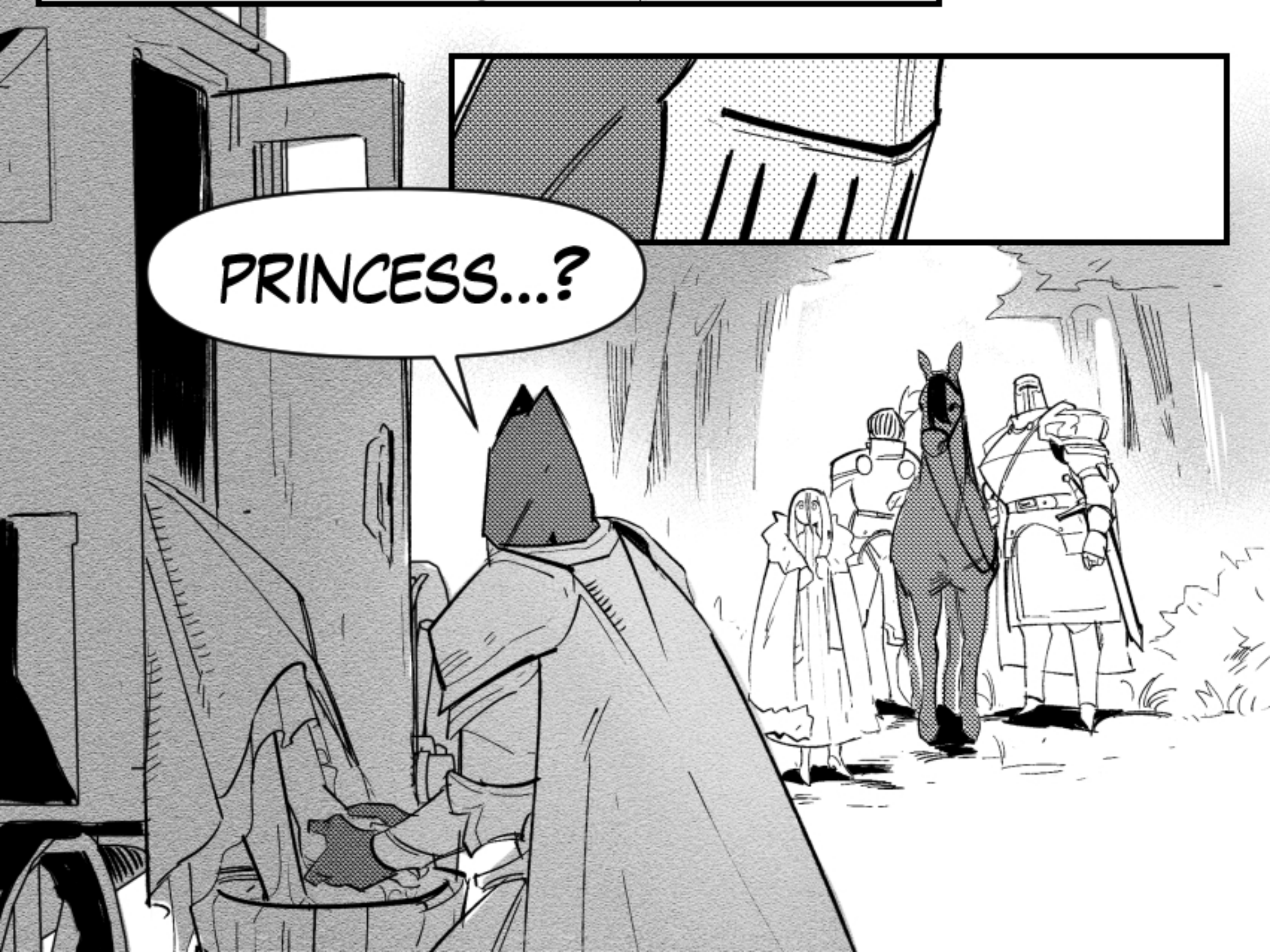
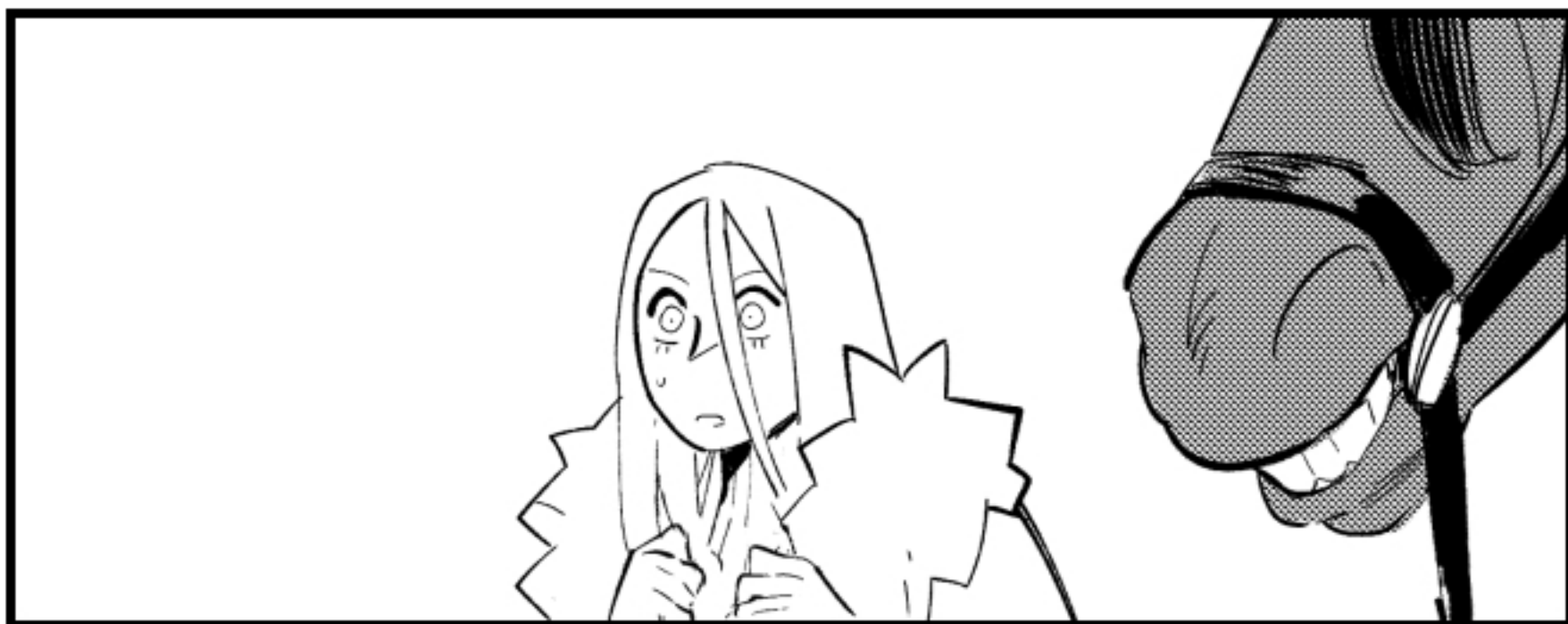


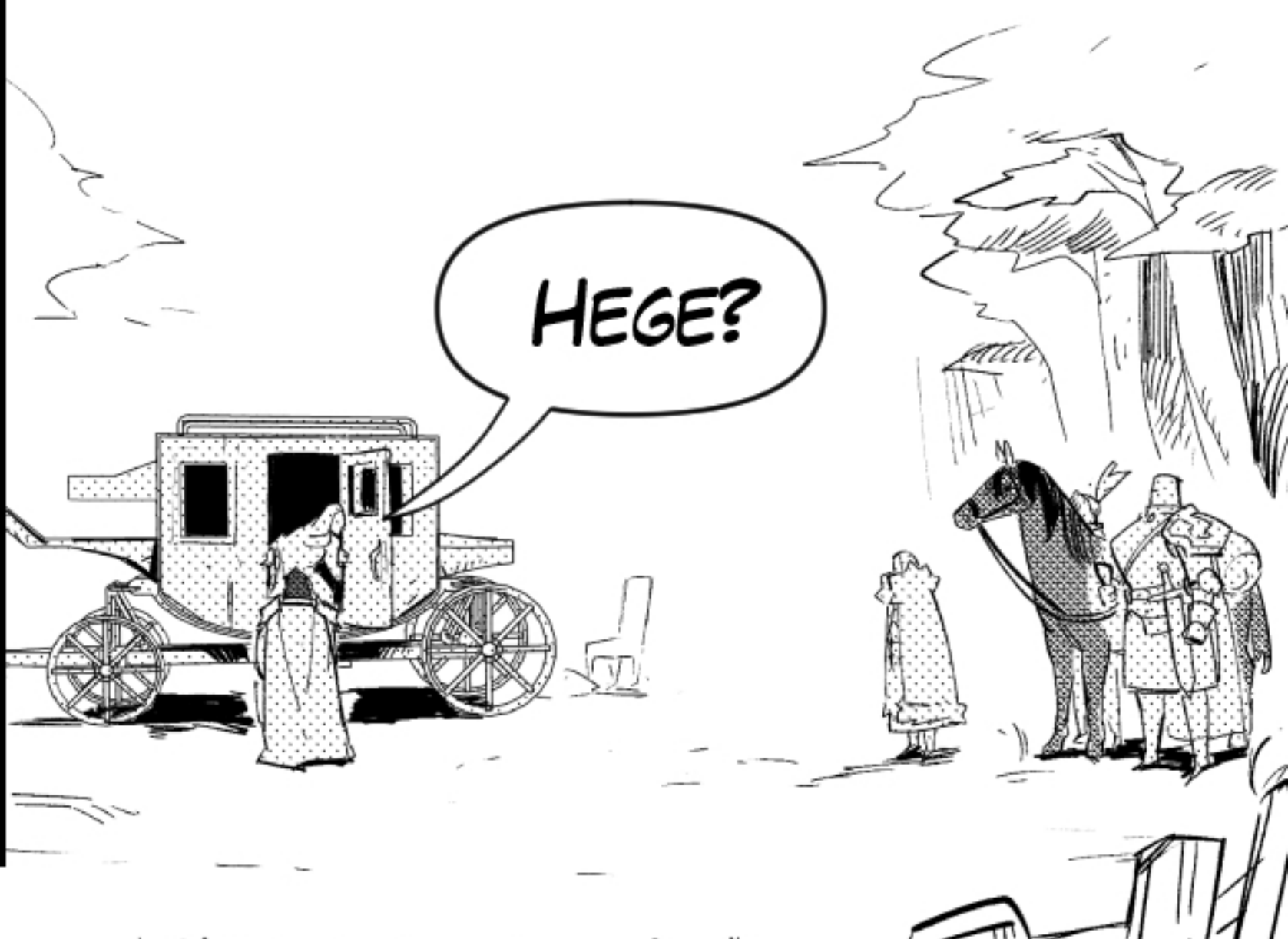
DAMN.
I WONDER WHAT
ELSE SHE "ORDERED"
YOU TO DO

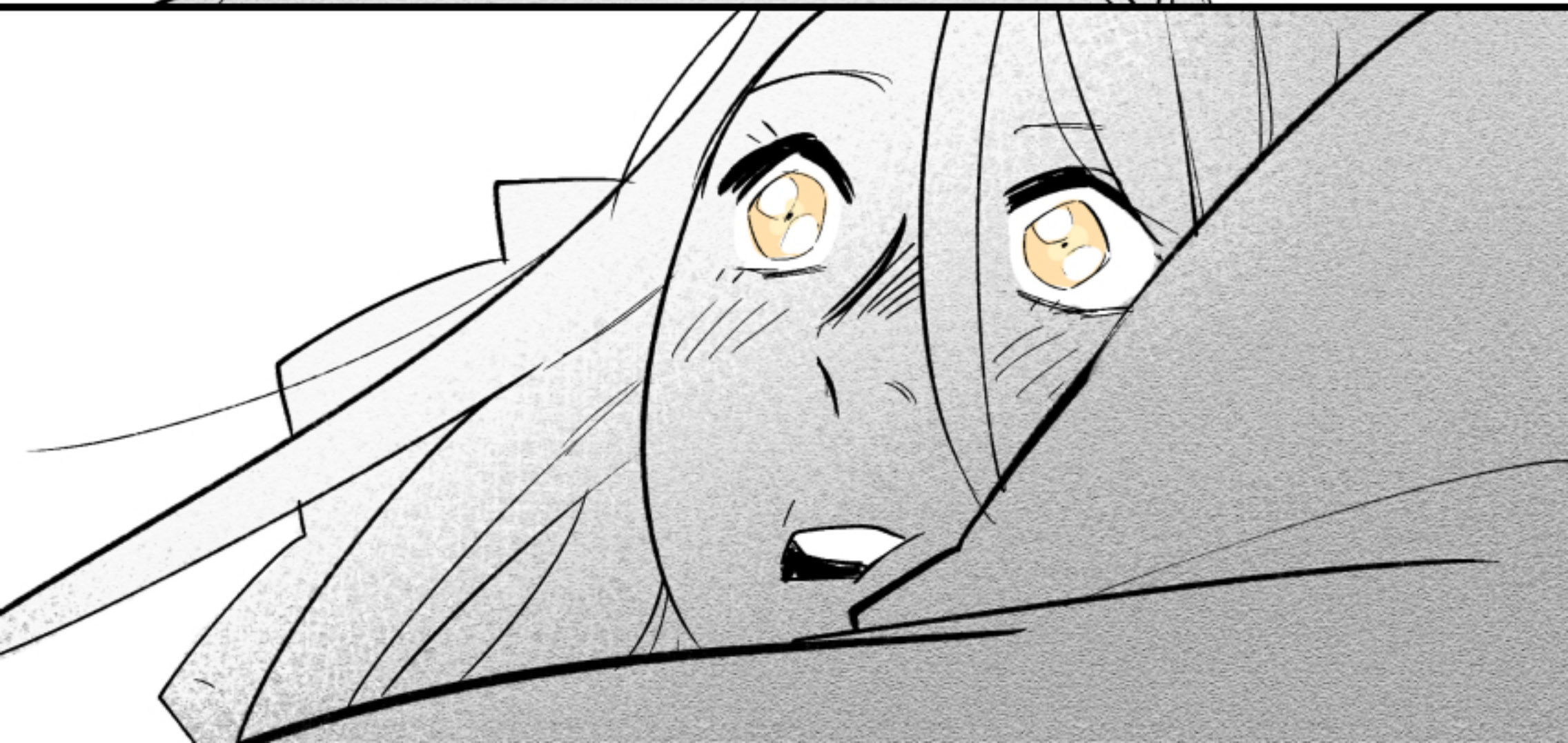
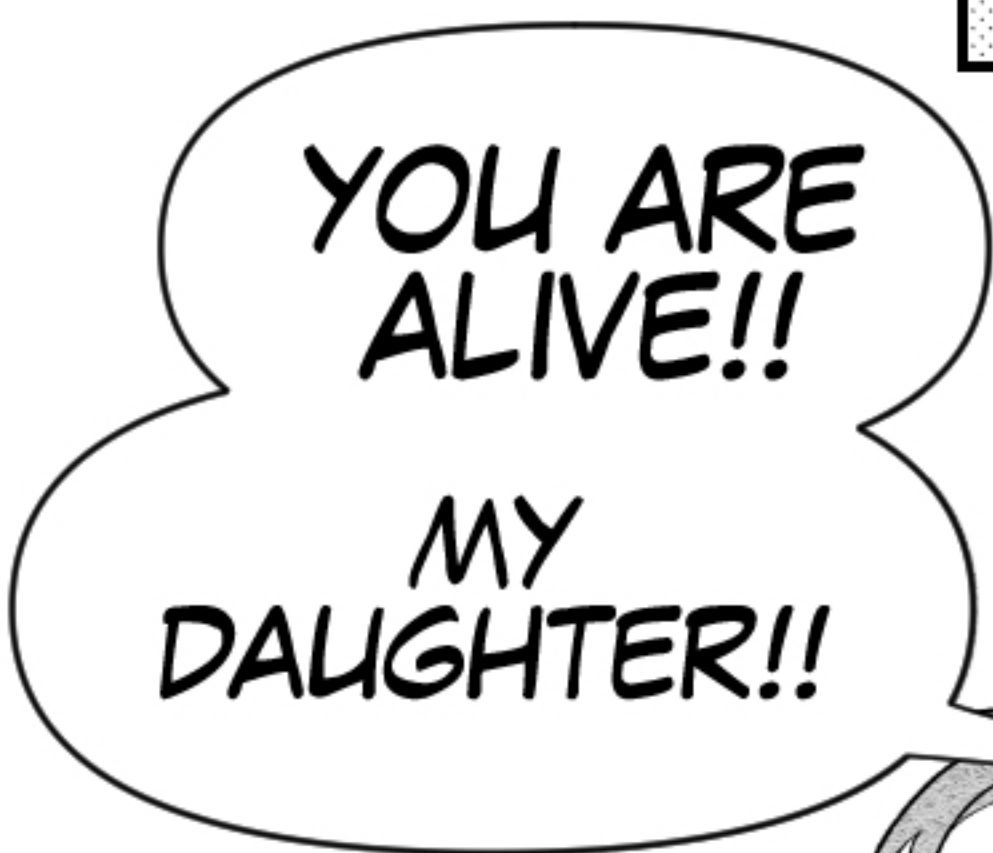
I'LL ASK ON THE
DETAILS LATER.













MY DUMB
LITTLE GIRL

YOU'RE
BACK!



Y-YES...
I'M SORRY,
MOM.

I WAS SO VERY
WORRIED!!

I CAN'T IMAGINE
THE HORRORS
YOU'VE BEEN
THROUGH!

OH, MERCIFUL
GODS. YOU'RE
ALIVE AND WELL

THE GODS
HEARD MY
PRAYERS

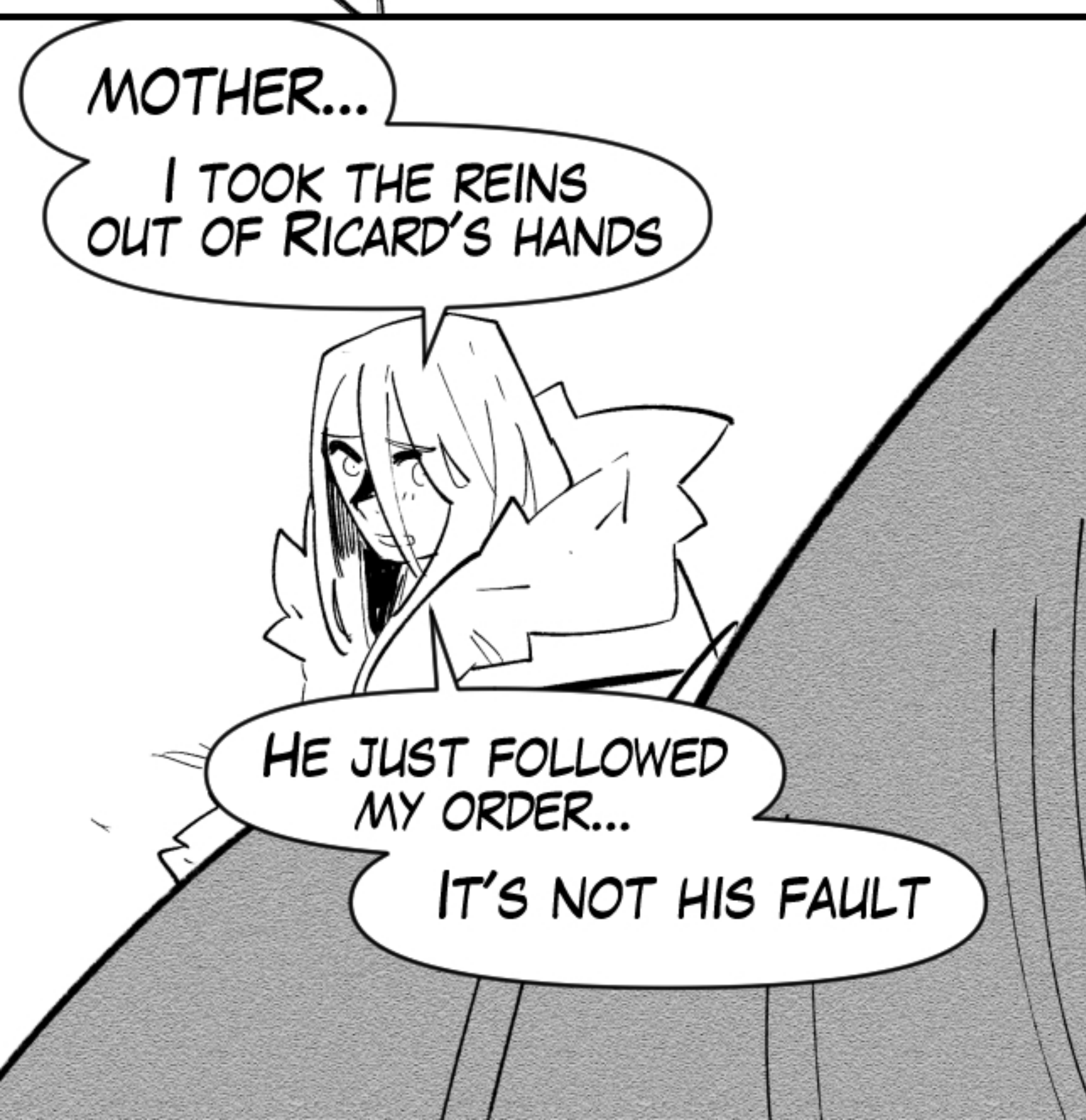
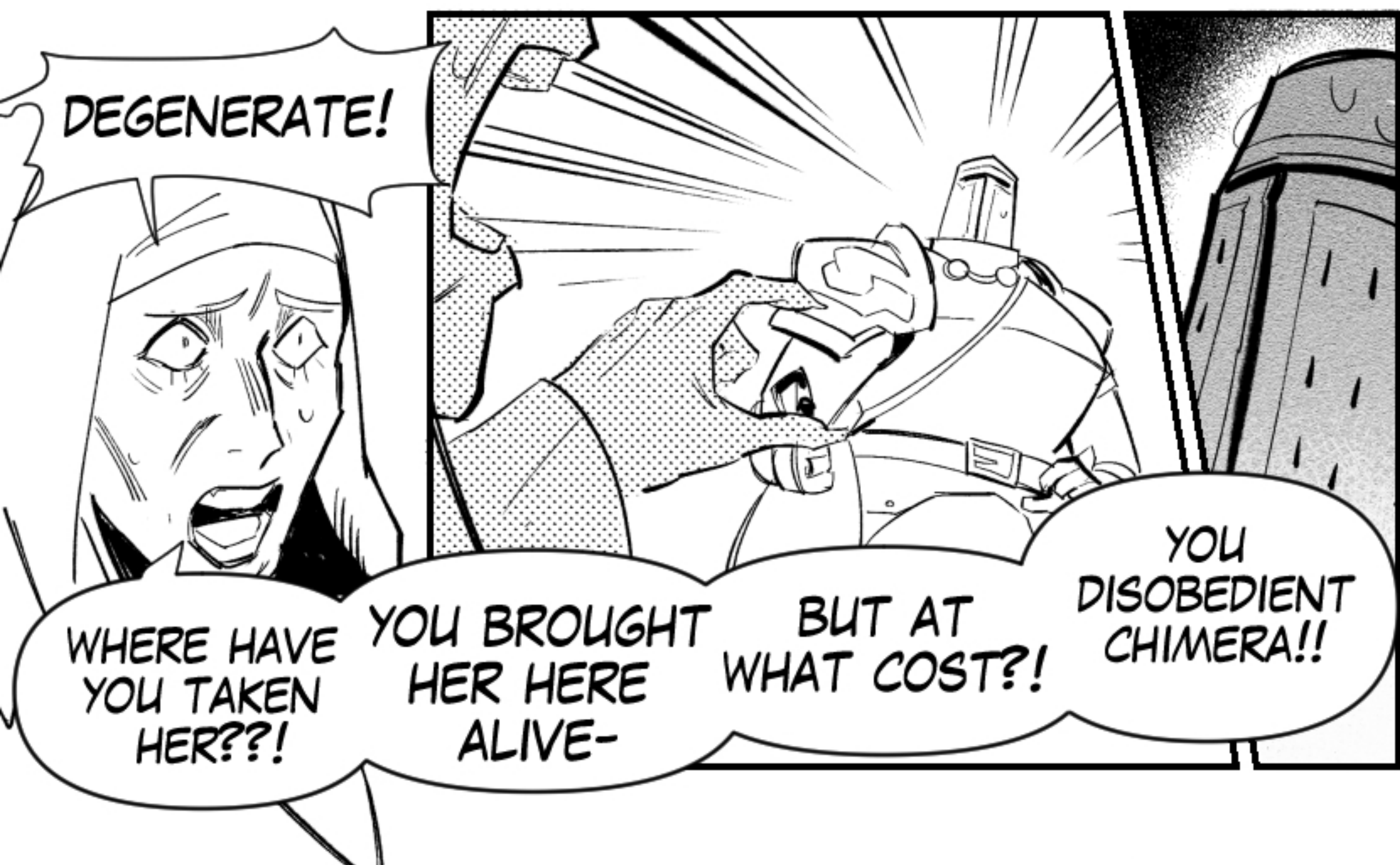
YOU PRAYED
FOR ME?...

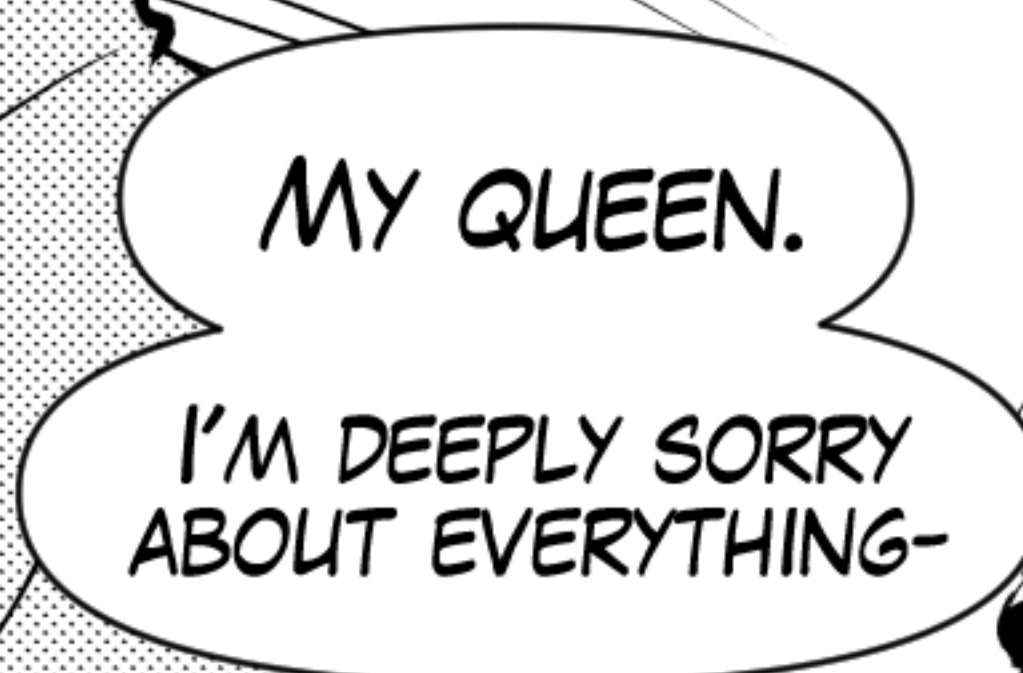
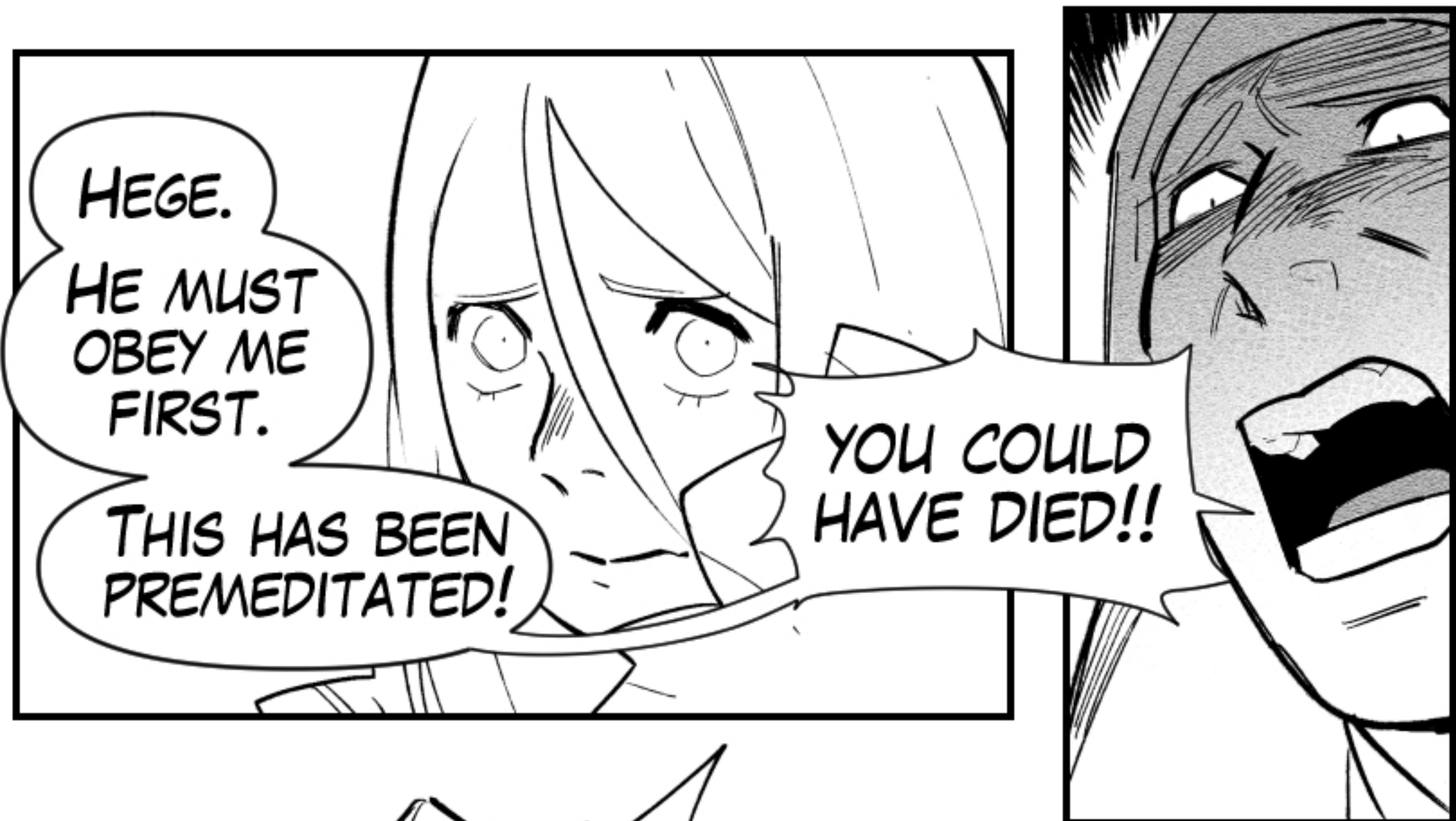
YOU.

WE NEED
TO TALK.

WHY IN HEAVENS
HAVE YOU
DISOBEYED ME?!

WHAT
INTENTIONS
YOU HAVE
WITH THE
PRINCESS?!

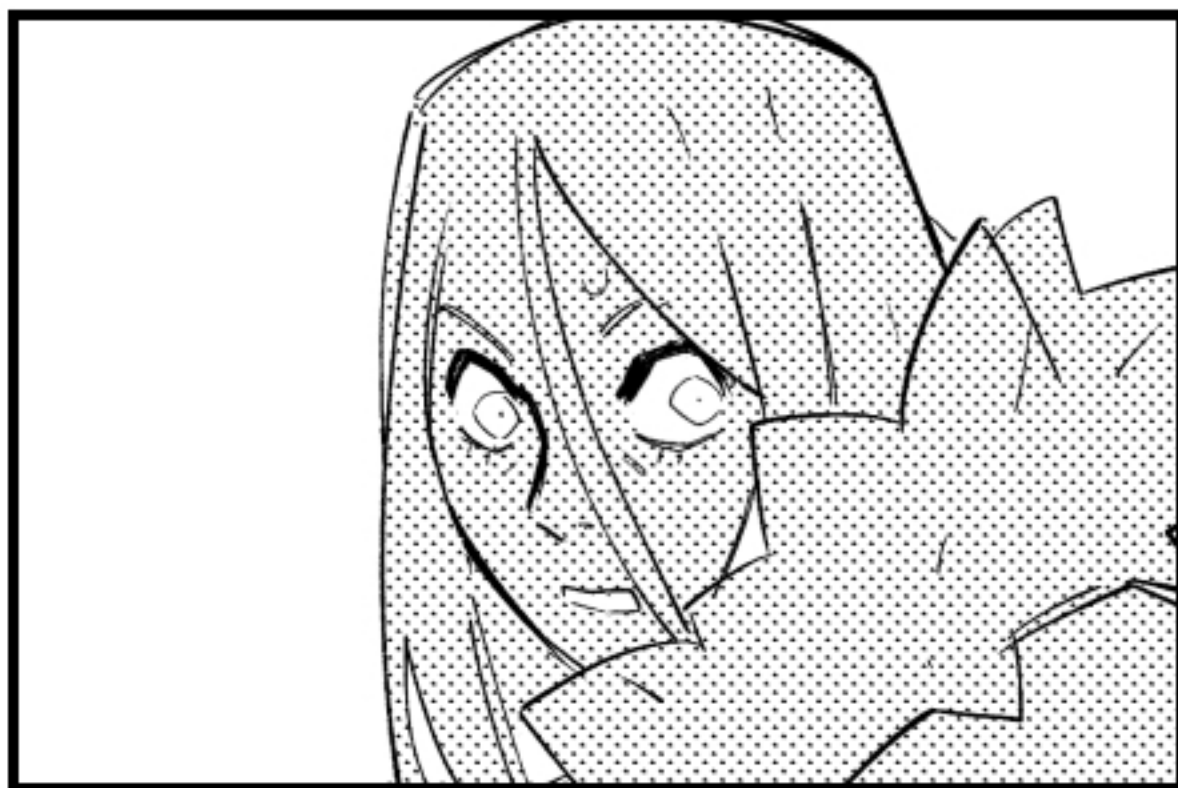
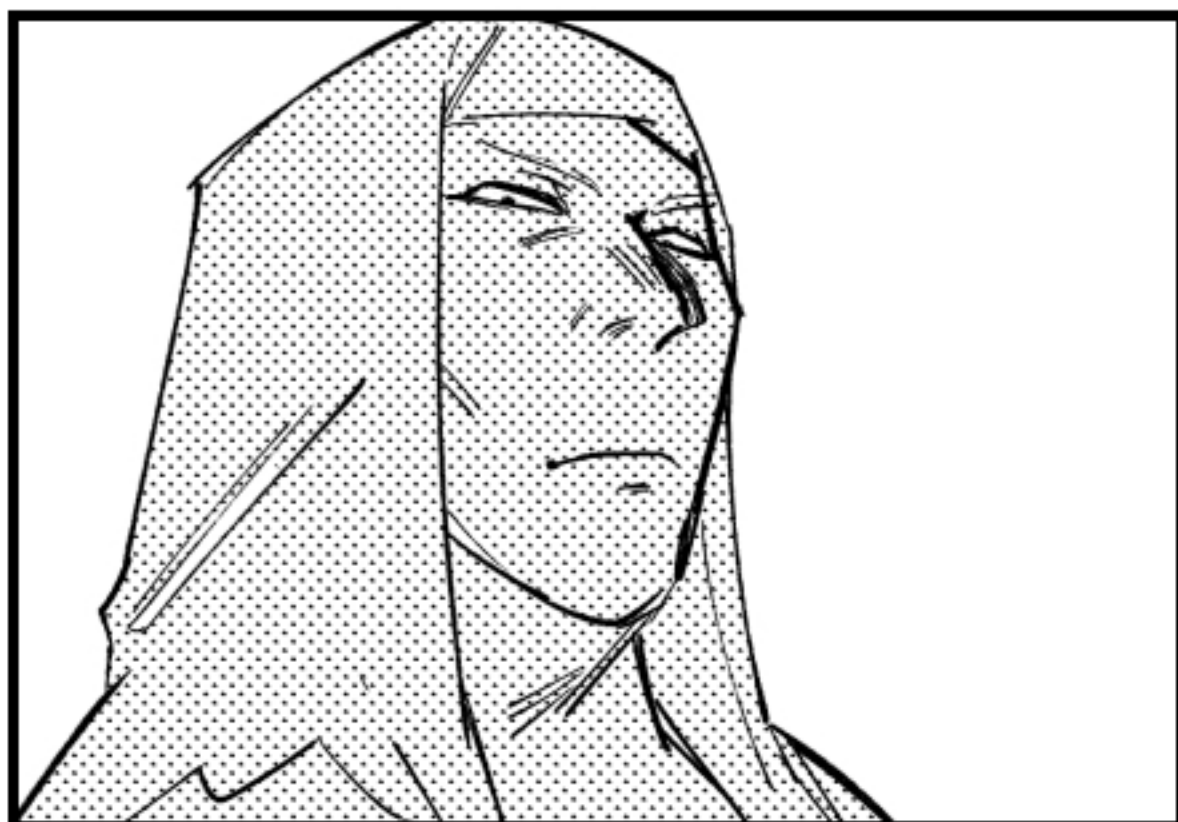




MAY THE GODS
PUNISH ME-

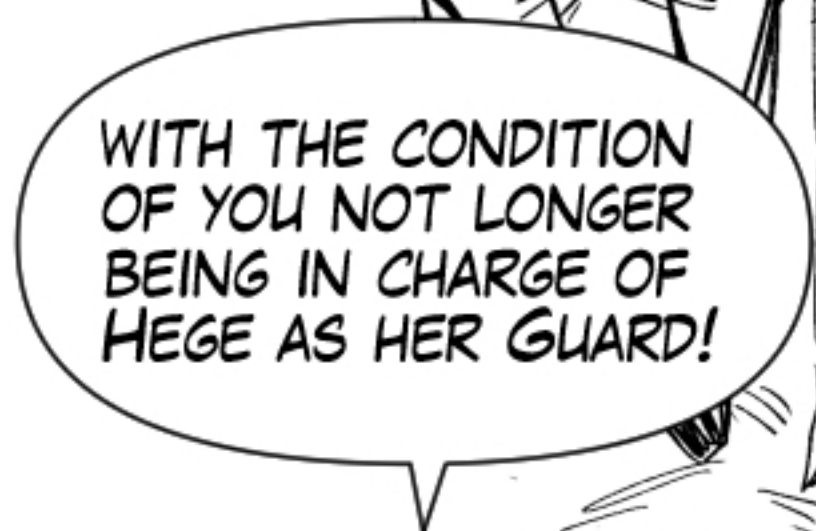
I HAVE BEEN
WEAK MINDED,
AND FORGOT
MY DUTIES.

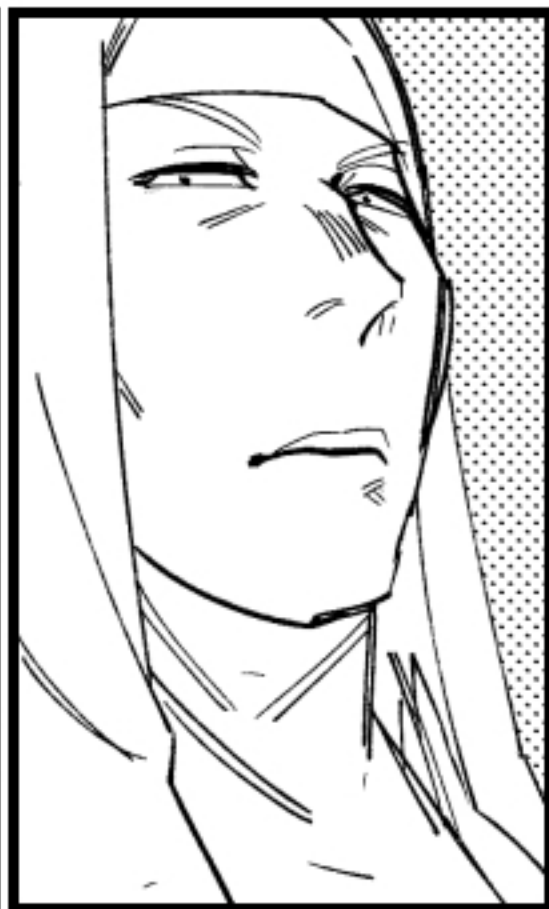
I'VE COMMITTED
THE ERROR OF
OMMITTING YOUR
ORDER, TO
RESPOND FIRST
TO THE PRINCESS-



I BEG YOU
FOR AN ABSOLUTION







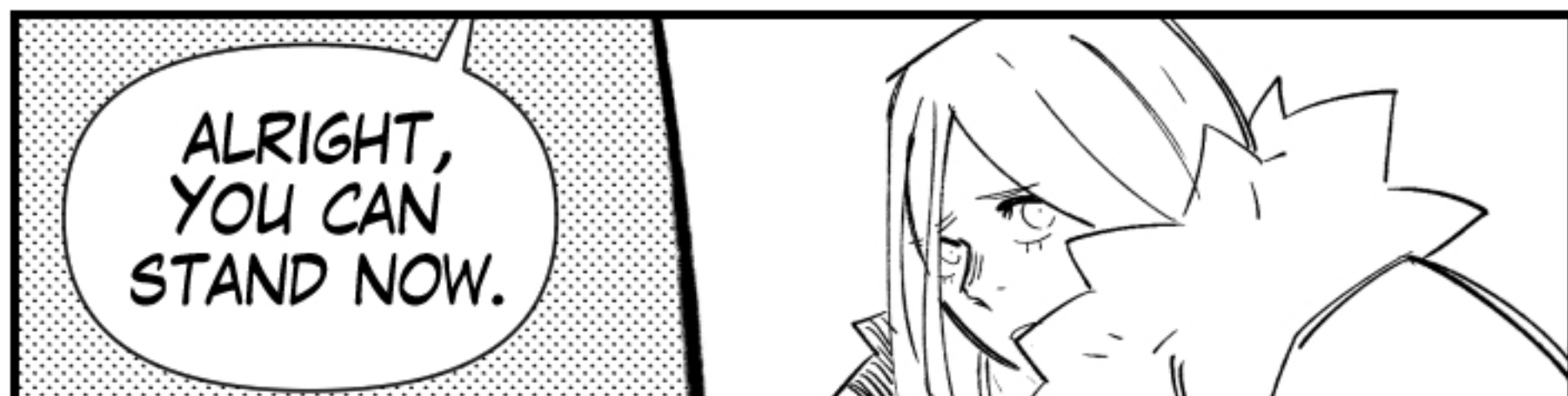
THANK YOU...
SO MUCH... MY QUEEN.

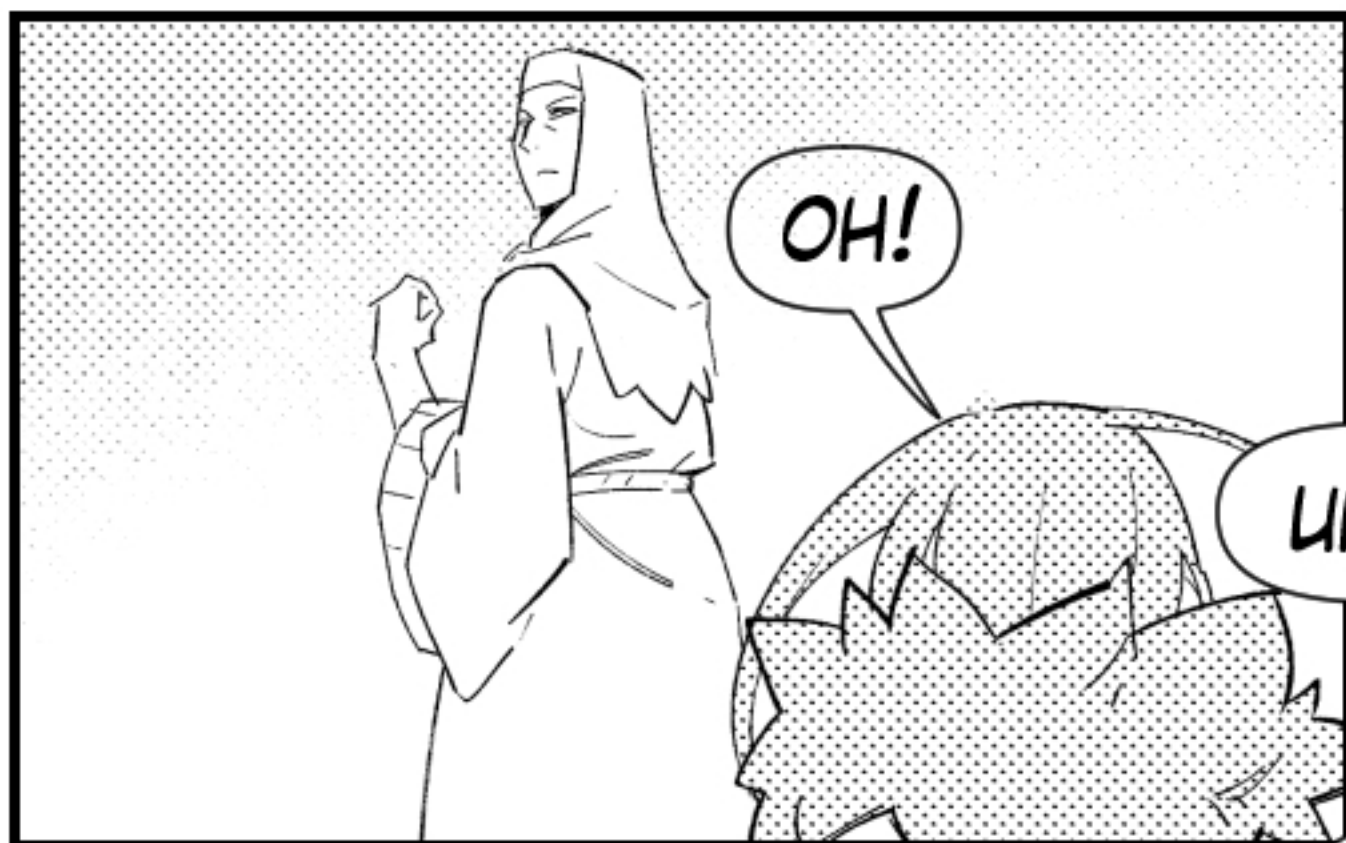
IT IS AN HONOR TO
STAY UNDER YOUR
COMMAND.

I'LL TAKE THIS
OPPORTUNITY, AND I'LL
AMEND MY BEHAVIOUR-

MY SINCEREST APOLOGIES,
AGAIN. I AM SO
TERRIBLY ASHAMED

MAY THE GODS BLESS
YOU, MY QUEEN.





OH!



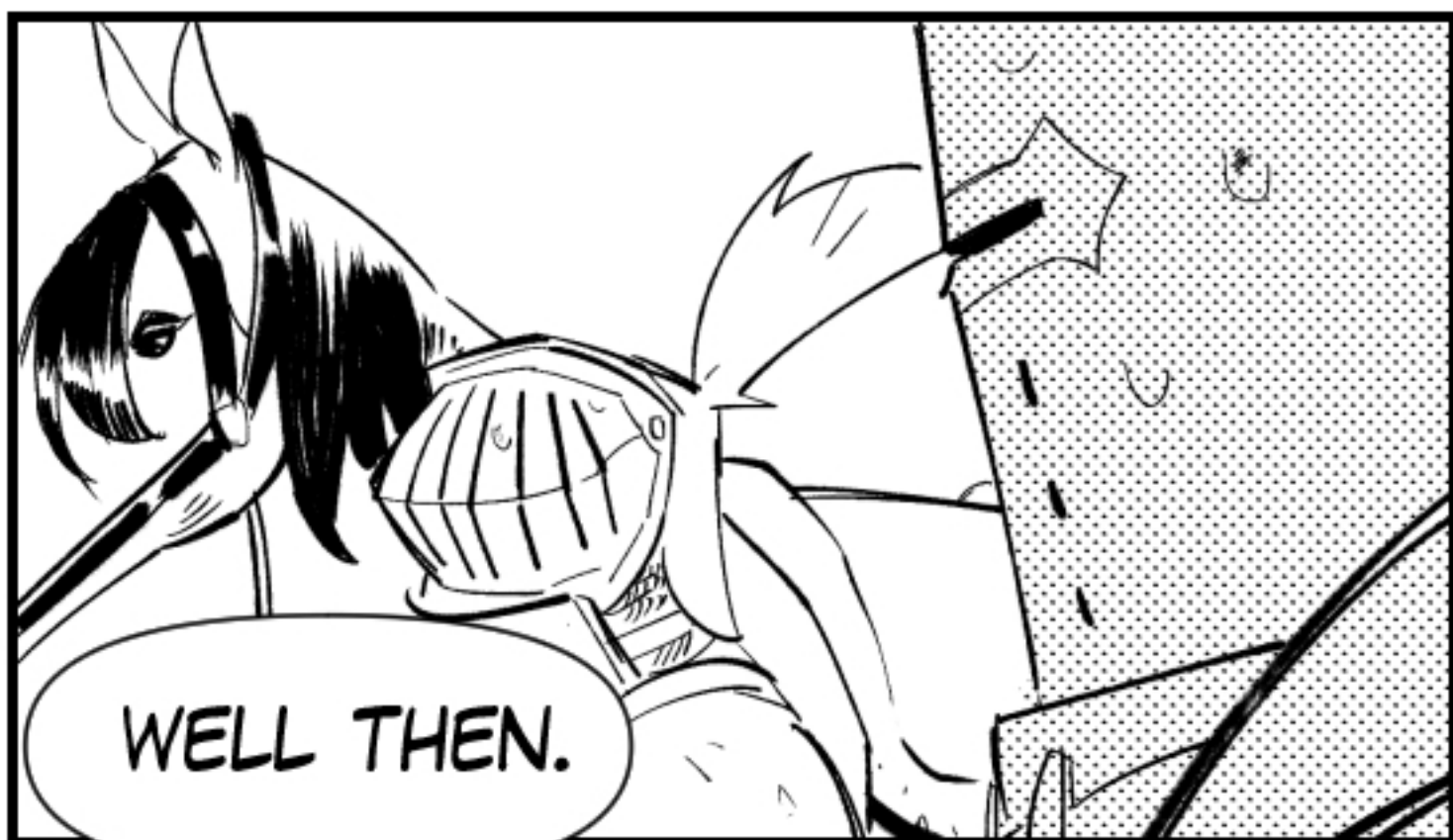
UHM-

THANK YOU,
MOTHER

I APPRECIATE
YOUR COMPASSION-



CONSIDER IT
A MIRACLE.



WELL THEN.

ERLANTZ AND RICARD
SHOULD GO HUNTING
NOW

BEFORE IT
GETS TOO
LATE AND COLD.

I'LL BE
IN THE CABIN,
IF YOU WANT
TO COME.





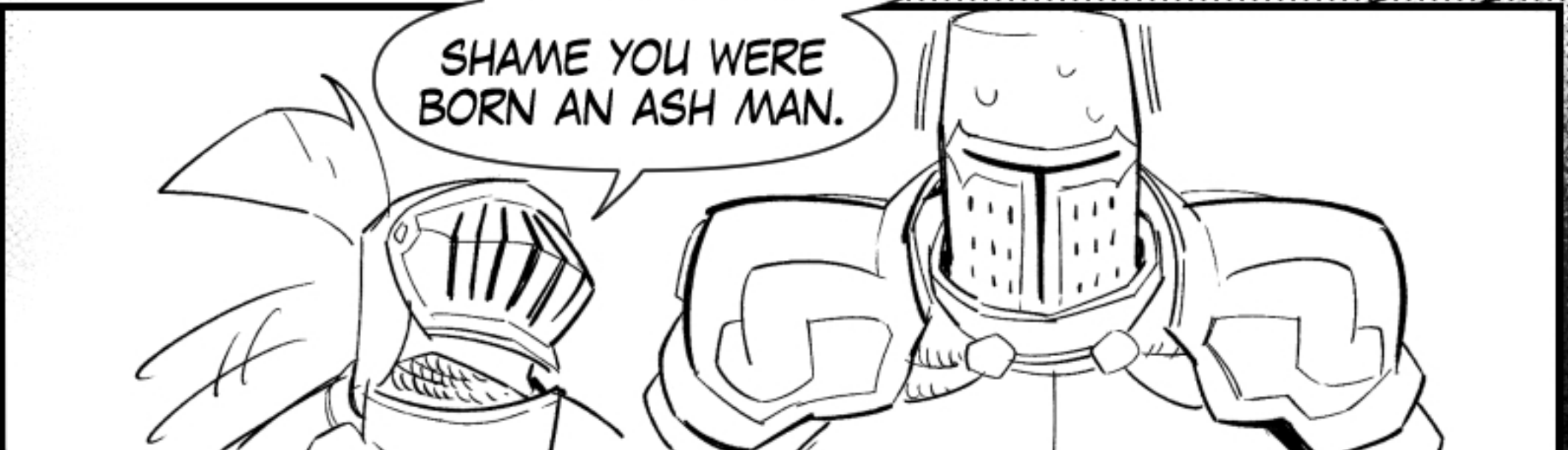
MOTHER! I-
I HAVE TO TELL
YOU SOMETHING-



QUEEN,
YOUR SHOES-

YOU'RE A PRETTY
GOOD ACTOR

SHAME YOU WERE
BORN AN ASH MAN.

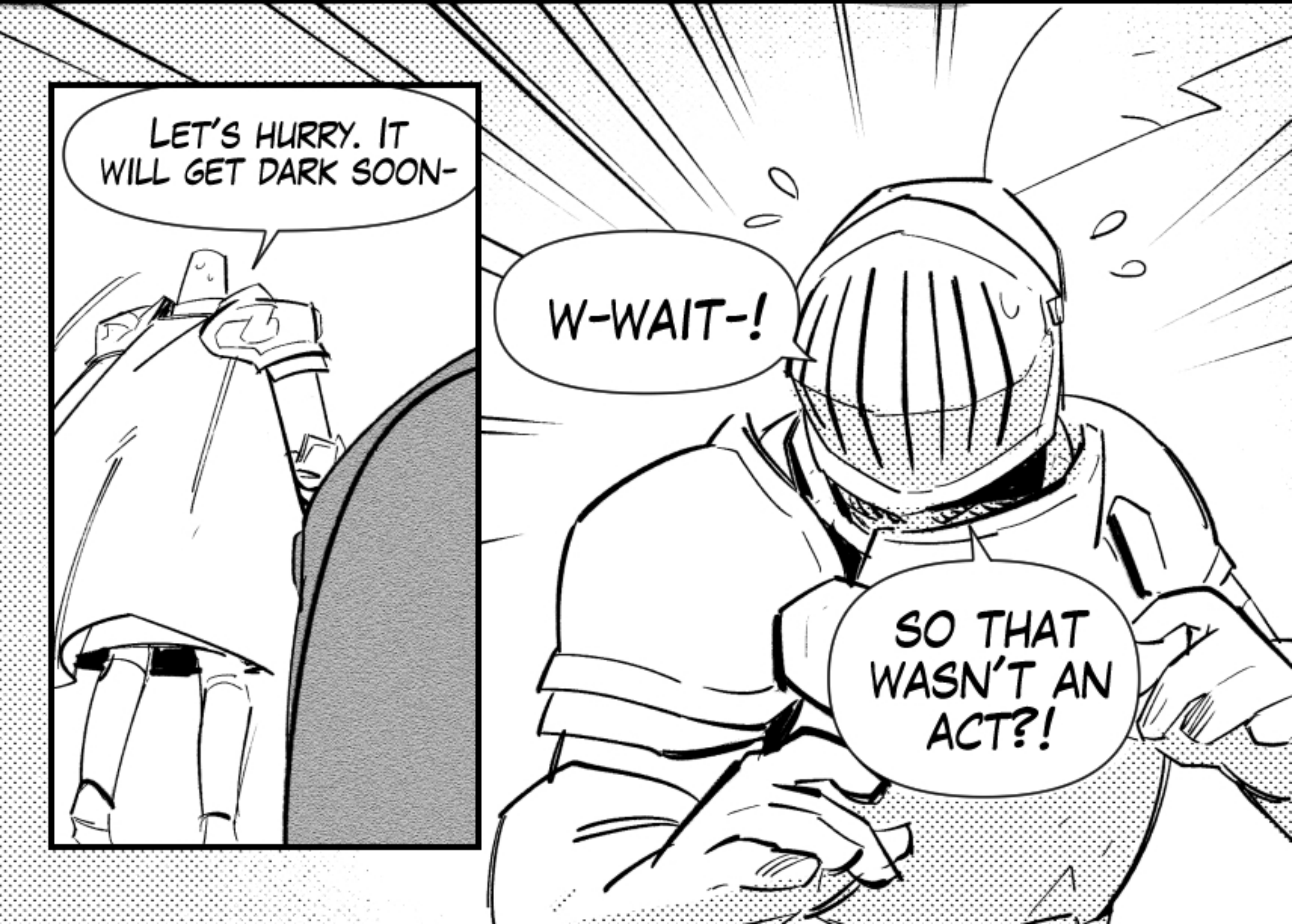


A knight in full plate armor, including a helmet with a visor, is shown from the chest up. He is looking down and slightly to the right. The background is a simple line drawing of a stone wall.

SHE STILL TOOK
THE PRINCESS
AWAY FROM YOU,
THOUGH.

A knight in full plate armor is shown from the chest up, looking down. He is holding a sword in his right hand, which is pointed downwards. The background is a simple line drawing of a stone wall.

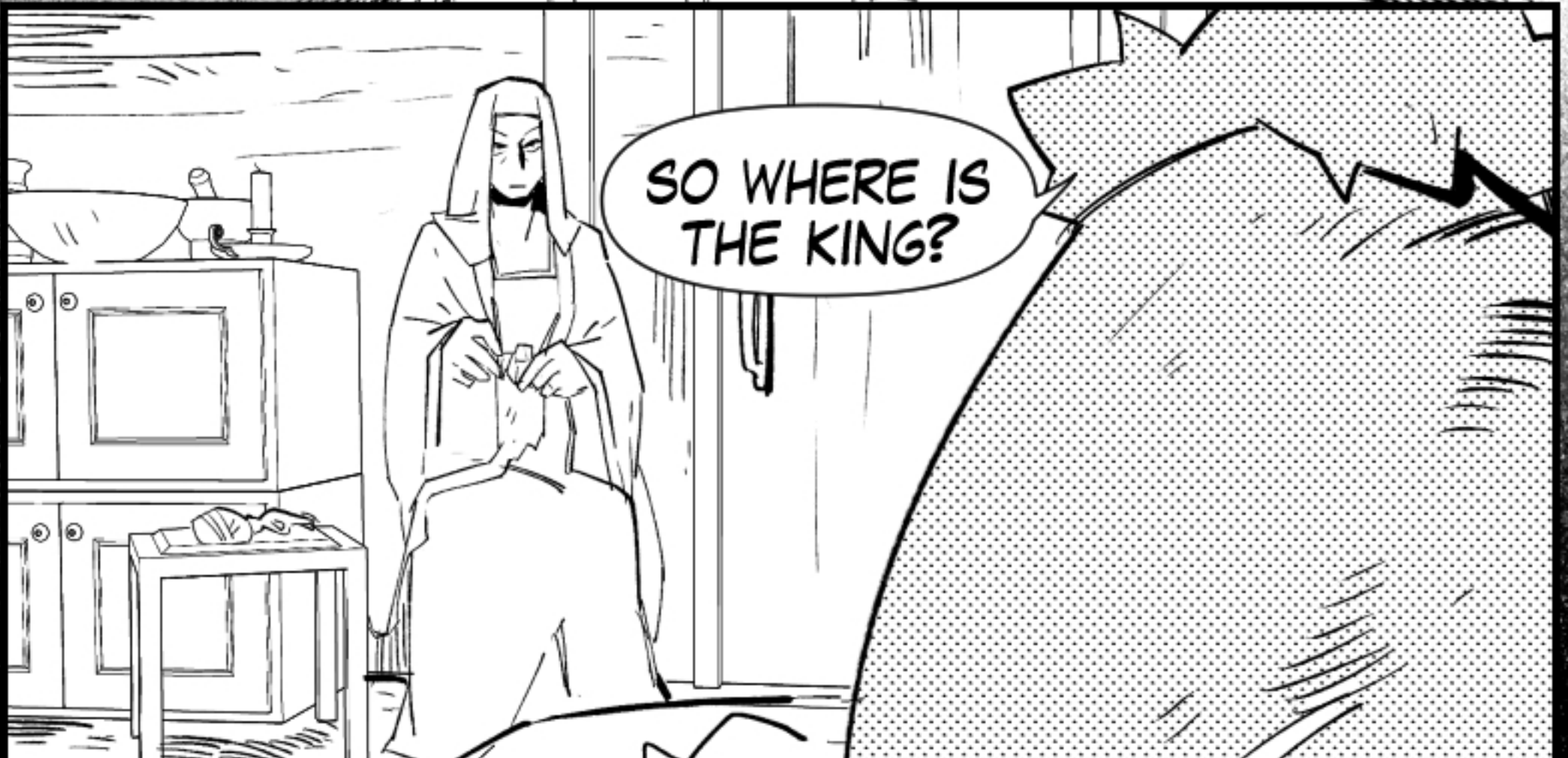
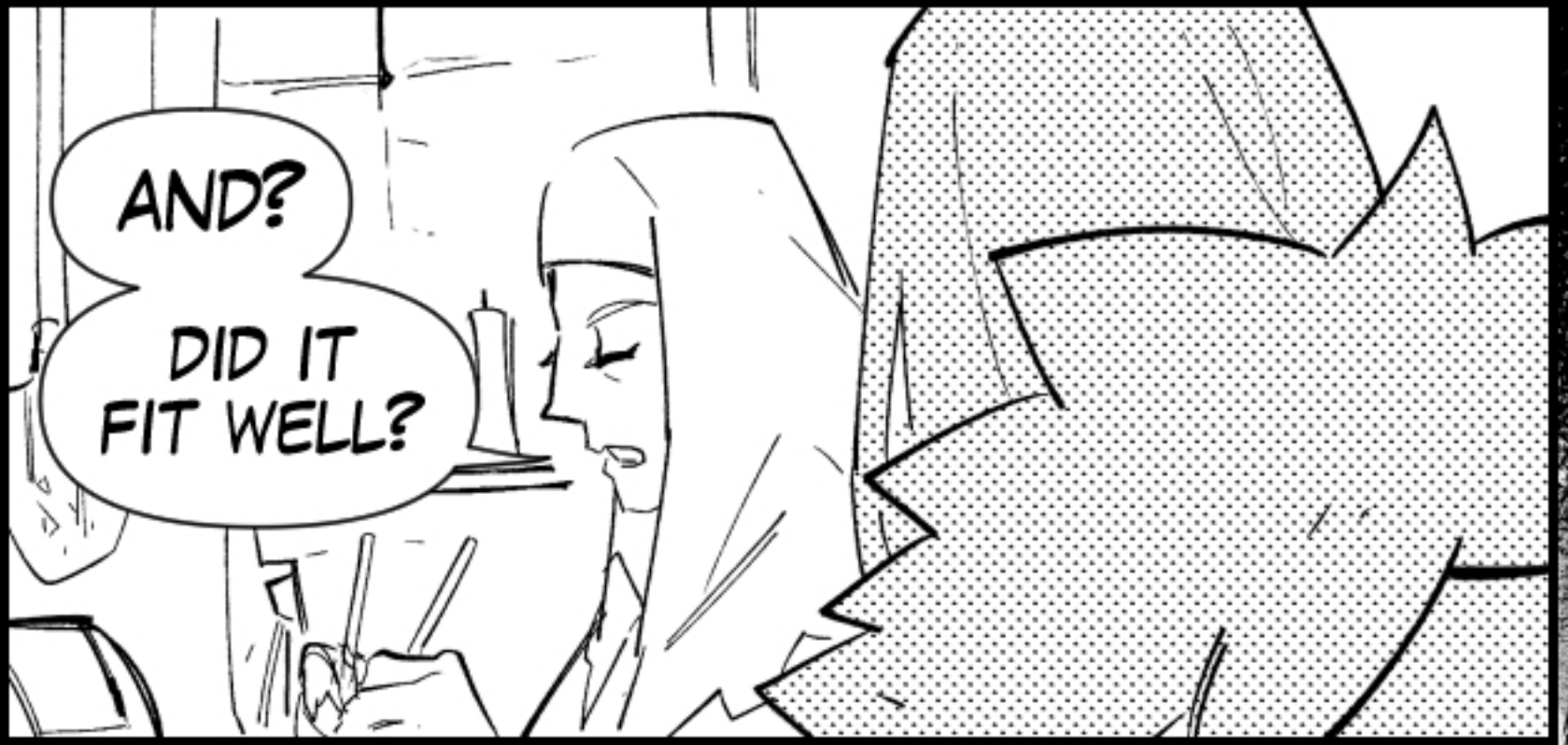
IT'S FOR HER
OWN GOOD.

A knight in full plate armor is shown from the chest up, looking down. He is holding a sword in his right hand, which is pointed downwards. The background is a simple line drawing of a stone wall.

LET'S HURRY. IT
WILL GET DARK SOON-

W-WAIT-!

SO THAT
WASN'T AN
ACT?!





THE MONSTERS
TOOK HIM.



W-WHAT?!

IS HE HURT?

DID THEY--...





THE GUARDS THAT CARRIED HIM, WERE SLOW, STUPID, AND WEAK ENOUGH TO LET THEMSELVES GRABBED BY THE MONSTERS.

AND THUS THE KING'S FRAGILE BODY WENT WITH THEM TOO.

WE COULDN'T JUST GO BACK FOR HIM

WE COULDN'T AFFORD ANOTHER LOSE TO THE ROYAL FAMILY.



MY MOURNING DIDN'T LAST TOO LONG.

THE MAN WAS DEAD IN LIFE ALREADY.





